Ponder God

Meditations,
prayers,
scripture, and
recorded new hymns
for
public worship and
personal devotions

from the series:

Fresh Views of Timelemss Truths

Ken Bible

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Isaiah 46:9b-10

(NASB)

"I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My plan will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure".

Isaiah 55:8-9

(NASB)

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts."

1Timothy 1:17

(NASB)

Now to the King
eternal,
immortal,
invisible,
the only God,
be honor and glory forever and ever.
Amen.

Boundless God

Almighty, eternal God, our brevity hides from us the full reality of Your faithfulness,
Your eternal consistency, and the certainty of Your promises and purposes.

There is so much that we cannot see from our limited viewpoint.

You see the end from the beginning.
Time is no barrier to Your consistency.
I learn as I go and
constantly change.
You are perfect,
all-knowing, and
changeless.

You are pure,
so all that You desire,
You do.
You are omnipotent,
so all that You say,
all that You plan,
You complete.

And Your desire is blessing.
Your purpose,
Your promise is salvation and complete well-being in Yourself.

Whom do I have in heaven but You?
And with You, I desire nothing on earth.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
(Psalm 73:25-26, NASB)

Hymn recording: Boundless God

Boundless God

Psalm 73:25-26; 90:1-12; Isaiah 40:12-26; 46:8-13; 1 Timothy 1:17



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CCLI Song #7193495.

10.10.10.10.

Psalm 8:1

(NASB)

Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth. You who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!

Psalm 19:1-6

(NASB)

The heavens tell of the glory of God;
And their expanse declares the work of His hands.
Day to day pours forth speech,
And night to night reveals knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
Their voice is not heard.
Their line has gone out into all the earth,
And their words to the end of the world.
In them He has placed a tent for the sun,
Which is like a groom coming out of his chamber;
It rejoices like a strong person to run his course.
Its rising is from one end of the heavens,
And its circuit to the other end of them;
And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Psalm 104:24

(NASB)

Lord, how many are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; The earth is full of Your possessions.

Look and Listen!

```
His presence,
      His greatness,
      His goodness.
Even in its fallen state,
      corrupted by our corruption,
it is silently but powerfully assuring us of
      His unfailing love and
      His absolute dependability.
Current human news consistently proclaims our
      smallness and
      selfishness.
Creation proclaims God's
      transcendence and
      lavish self-giving.
The news displays
      our ignorance and
      unreliability.
Creation proclaims His
      perfect wisdom and
      unchanging faithfulness.
Look.
Listen.
Breathe.
Enjoy.
God is with us!
```

You are engulfed in His wonderful presence!

Creation is wordlessly proclaiming God's glory –

Hymn recording: God's Glory in Creation

God's Glory in Creation

TUNE: Somebody's Knocking at Your Door *Psalm 8:1; 19:1-6; 104:24*



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: African-American Spiritual; arr. by Ken Bible SOMEBODY'S KNOCKING 2 8.8.9.8.

Isaiah 6:1-4

(NASB)

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim were standing above Him, each having six wings: with two each covered his face, and with two each covered his feet, and with two each flew. And one called out to another and said,

"Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of armies.

The whole earth is full of His glory."

And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

Isaiah 57:15

(NASB)

This is what the high and exalted One Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, says: "I dwell in a high and holy place, And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit In order to revive the spirit of the lowly And to revive the heart of the contrite."

Acts 17:27c-28

(NASB)

"He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist."

Transcendent and Immanent

```
O God, You are transcendent,
      infinitely above us in every way,
      separate from this entire creation,
      of another realm,
      an unbounded Spirit being
      unhindered by space and time.
Your seraphim, Your "burning ones"
celebrate Your infinite exaltedness,
      Your separate-ness,
      Your utter purity,
crying to each other
      instinctively,
      unceasingly,
              "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;
             the whole earth is full of his glory." (Isaiah 6:3, NIV)
But, O our God, You are also immanent,
      personally,
      intimately,
      completely,
      constantly
with us,
      in the fullest sense.
      with all You are.
Above us,
around us,
encompassing us,
infilling us,
      transcendent,
      yet immanent!
Praise and eternal worship be to You alone,
      Magnificent God!
```

Hymn recording: Transcendent and Immanent

Transcendent and Immanent

Genesis 2:7; Psalm 73:23-28; Isaiah 6:1; 40:12-26; 55:8-9; 57:15; Acts 17:28; Ephesians 3:14-21



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible BARBARA ALLEN A-2 8.9.8.9.

Psalm 139

(NASB)

Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I get up; You understand my thought from far away. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, Lord, You know it all. You have encircled me behind and in front, And placed Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot comprehend it.

Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, You are there;
If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.
If I take up the wings of the dawn,
If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,
Even there Your hand will lead me,
And Your right hand will take hold of me.
If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"
Even darkness is not dark to You,
And the night is as bright as the day.
Darkness and light are alike to You.

For You created my innermost parts;
You wove me in my mother's womb.
I will give thanks to You, because I am awesomely and wonderfully made;
Wonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.
My frame was not hidden from You
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully formed in the depths of the earth;
Your eyes have seen my formless substance;
And in Your book were written
All the days that were ordained for me,
When as yet there was not one of them.

How precious also are Your thoughts for me, God!

How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.

If only You would put the wicked to death, God; Leave me, you men of bloodshed. For they speak against You wickedly, And Your enemies take Your name in vain. Do I not hate those who hate You, Lord? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? I hate them with the utmost hatred; They have become my enemies.

Search me, God, and know my heart; Put me to the test and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there is any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.

Reflection on Psalm 139

```
You know me, Father.
You know me
      constantly and
      completely.
Whatever I am doing,
      however I am distracting myself,
beyond my shallow self-understanding,
fuzzy motives and all,
      You know me.
Your knowing
      surrounds me and
      encircles me.
      penetrating to the very core of
             who I am and
             why I do what I do.
At the very root of my thoughts,
before I speak,
before I act,
      You know.
      You understand.
Your hand is always on me.
You are with me
      every moment,
      in that intimate knowing.
Wherever I am,
whatever my situation,
whatever stress is pressing in on me,
      You are with me.
I cannot hide from You
      anything about myself.
It is futile to try.
You were the One weaving me together
      in my mother's womb,
      before even she knew I was there.
So.
      since I cannot run, and
      since I cannot hide,
search me.
      Try me.
```

Know me completely.

If there is anything that doesn't please Your all-wise, all-loving heart,
do what only You can do, and enable me do what only I can do.

Make me right, through and through.

I know You want to, and I know You can.

Now I want it, too.

Creator,

recreate me in the beautiful image of Your holy, loving Son, Jesus Christ. Make me just like Him!

Hymn recording: Psalm 139

Psalm 139



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) and Ken Bible

BRAHMS ROMANZE 9.10.9.10.

Psalm 90:1-2

(NASB)

Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

Psalm 102:24b-27

(NASB)

Your years are throughout all generations.
In old You founded the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
Even they will perish, but You endure;
All of them will wear out like a garment;
Like clothing You will change them and they will pass away.
But You are the same,
And Your years will not come to an end.

Hebrews 13:8

(NASB)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, and forever.

The Unchanging God

I enjoy looking at family photos. It's fun seeing all the younger faces, marveling at how cute our kids were when they were little, remembering my parents when they were young and strong. In those photos I watch as each of us travels through the cycle of life.

It makes me think about the passage of time and all the inevitable changes. God has been with us. In fact, I sometimes look and imagine God being in each of those pictures.

God looks the same in every photograph. We all change drastically. He doesn't change. He's in the picture of my dad, a young man heading into World War II. He is in those photos of our growing young family. And there He is in our newest group portrait.

We usually think of God as being old and wise, looking like a grandfather, with white hair and a long beard. But remember, God has never aged. Picture Him as 22, young and strong, and you're just as near the truth.

Read the creation story, and you see a God who is energetic and enthusiastic, like a proud parent preparing for the arrival of a new baby. He's excited! Everything has to be perfect!

God enjoys blessing His people. He does it with a smile on His face and a bounce in His step.

His energy and enthusiasm haven't waned one bit. He's the same as when He called Abraham out of his homeland, or when He showed himself to Jacob, young and desperate, running from his own foolishness. He's the same as when He energized the boy David to go after a fierce giant with a slingshot, and when He called a fearful shepherd to lead an entire nation out of slavery. "Take off your shoes, Moses. You're standing on holy ground."

That's the same God that inhabits our photos. He's in each of our family pictures.

I look at those pictures, and I think about our family. I think about our kids, now responsible adults, making us so proud. I think about our grandchildren. It won't be long before they have families of their own. I think about my parents and how quickly they aged, and how rapidly my wife and I are traveling that same path. Our photos will look different in future years. Some new members will be added. Some precious members will be missing. And those still there will gradually look so very different.

But God will be the same in every picture. If we could see the pictures of our great-grandchildren and their families, we'd see the same, young, energetic God, still just as enthusiastic about blessing His people, still as intent on faithfully leading them to Himself.

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;

with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself. (Psalm 89:1-2, NIV)

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. (Psalm 90:1-2, NIV)

That is the God who is with us and with all those we love, today and every day, through all generations. His faithful love gives us a security that change, age, and death can never touch.

Hymn recording: You Are the Same

You Are the Same

Hebrews 13:8



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Irregular

Psalm 29

(NASB)

Ascribe to the Lord, sons of the mighty, Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; Worship the Lord in holy attire.

The voice of the Lord is on the waters;

The God of glory thunders,

The Lord is over many waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful,

The voice of the Lord is majestic.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;

Yes, the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon in pieces.

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

And Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord divides flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;

The Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth

And strips the forests bare;

And in His temple everything says, "Glory!"

The Lord sat as King at the flood;

Yes, the Lord sits as King forever.

The Lord will give strength to His people;

The Lord will bless His people with peace.

You Speak

O Living God,

Almighty God,

Transcendent God,

from the silence of Your eternal completeness

You speak.

O Father, Your love never stops speaking.

You spoke this entire world into existence.

And through it, You speak Your presence with us.

You speak Your power,

Your wisdom,

Your boundlessness,

Your faithful care.

By Your speaking

You enfold us in all You are.

But You not only speak TO us, Almighty Father.

You speak THROUGH us.

Listening to Your servants, we hear

Your sovereign voice through

human lips.

You move us,

You enable us,

You inspire us to speak for You.

But Father, You speak

fully and

finally

through Your Son, Jesus Christ.

This human being always speaks with Your voice.

His words are purely Your words.

When He speaks,

all reality bows to His authority.

This Jesus Christ has filled us with

His own Spirit.

Through Him, You speak within our

hearts and

minds.

The same Voice that created the universe is now reverberating throughout our entire beings.

O Living God,
Almighty God,
Transcendent God,
speak freely!
Speak Your will.
Speak Your love.
Speak Your holy life.
Speak Jesus Christ in me!

Hymn recording: Psalm 29: "Voice of God"

Voice of God

Genesis 1; Exodus 7:1-2; 1 Kings 19:12; Psalm 29; Matthew 10:20; John 14:24; Hebrews 1:1-3



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In the Old Testament passages below:

bold = Hebrew, chesed: "grace," "mercy," or "unfailing love"
 bold italics = Hebrew, emet or emunah: "truth" or "absolute dependability"
 John 1:14-17 declares that both have come to us in Jesus Christ.

Exodus 34:6-7

(NASB)

And [Yahweh] passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in **love** and **faithfulness**, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

Psalm 25:10

(NASB)

All the paths of the Lord are **lovingkindness** and *truth* To those who keep His covenant and testimonies.

Psalm 36:5

(NASB)

Your **lovingkindness**, O Lord, extends to the heavens, Your **faithfulness** reaches to the skies.

Psalm 86:15

(NASB)

But You, Lord, are a merciful and gracious God, Slow to anger and abundant in **lovingkindness** and *truth*.

Hosea 4:1

(NASB)

Listen to the word of the Lord, O sons of Israel, For the Lord has a case against the inhabitants of the land, Because there is no *faithfulness* or *kindness* Or knowledge of God in the land.

John 1:14-17

(NASB)

The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of **grace** and **truth**. John testified about Him and called out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who is coming after me has proved to be my superior, because He existed before me." For of His fullness we have all received, and **grace** upon **grace**. For the Law was given through Moses; **grace** and **truth** were realized through Jesus Christ.

Unfailing Love, Absolute Dependability

```
When Moses longed to know God better,
God introduced Himself as
    unfailing love and
    absolute dependability (Exodus 34:6-7).

Then throughout the Old Testament,
    especially in the Psalms,
God was praised and petitioned for His
    unfailing love and
    absolute dependability.

So when Jesus came as the full embodiment of this God,
how was He described?

The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of
the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth....For of His fullness we have
all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace
and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. (John 1:14, 16-17, NASB)
```

Grace and

truth -

unfailing love and

absolute dependability -

that is who He is

whenever we need Him

with us or

within us.

He is

always love and

always faithful.

Depend on Him.

Rest completely in Him.

Hymn recording: Grace and Truth

Grace and Truth

Exodus 34:6-7; Psalm 25:10; 26:3; 36:5; 40:11; 57:3, 11; 61:7; 85:10; 86:15; 89:14; 108:4; 115:1; 117:2; 138:2; Proverbs 3:3; John 1:14, 17



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

CHESED AND EMET 4.6.5.4.D..

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John 14:9-10

(NASB)

Jesus said..."The one who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own, but the Father, as He remains in Me, does His works.

Colossians 1:15

(NASB)

[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Hebrews 1:1-3

(NASB)

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom He also made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

See Your Heavenly Father

Jesus said to His disciples:

"Who do you say that I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:15-16, NASB)

We can learn so much about our Heavenly Father through creation. We look into the night sky and glimpse His immensity. We taste His power in the storm. The days and nights and seasons remind us of His faithfulness.

But knowing *about* Him is not the same as knowing *Him* personally. Colossians 1:15 points us in the right direction when it says:

Jesus is the image of the invisible God.

Jesus came and made the eternal, holy Father seeable and touchable. He was part of a family as human as yours and mine. He experienced daily life in a body, just like we do. He faced our temptations, felt our pain, endured our fatigue and hunger, and died as we die.

Yet in this human being we saw our Father, pure and at full strength, live and in person, not some watered-down imitation. We heard His timeless wisdom and saw it lived out. We witnessed the miracles of the Creator, but now up-close and personal. No stage, no curtains, no fancy lighting. Nothing between Him and us. He let us stand right in front of Him as, on a small scale, He did what our Creator does every day:

He turned water into wine.

He produced a lot of food from a very little.

He stilled storms.

He healed diseases.

In Jesus, we were gripped by God's unconquerable love, reaching out to forgive us even as we tortured and murdered Him.

Our God is awe-inspiring and holy, all-powerful and all-wise, unbound by matter and time, infinitely above us in every way. Yet He is also with us. God has come to us. He is one of us. We can be as comfortable with Him as a child sleeping close to her mother.

Hymn recording: See the Father Walk Among Us

See the Father Walk Among Us

TUNE: Angels, from the Realms of Glory (REGENT SQUARE)

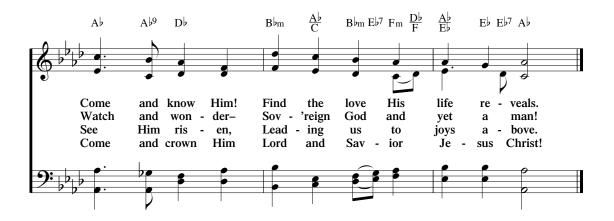


MUSIC: Henry T. Smart

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8.7.8.7.8.7.



Matthew 6:9-13

(NASB)

"Pray, then, in this way:

'Our Father, who is in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

[For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]

A Better Life Is Waiting

We all have hopes that drive us, things we look forward to. Some are long-term: a better house, a better job, a better life for us and for our families. Some are short-term and daily: more time off, less demands on our energies, more leisure.

But as time goes by, God keeps reminding me of one key fact. Through good times and bad times, successes and failures, no matter what happens or doesn't happen, only one thing will make life happier. Only one thing will make it more meaningful, more peaceful, and more satisfying—all I want it to be. That one thing is not a job, a house, money, or more time off. Our only lasting happiness will always be this: enjoying God's presence right now, in the present moment. In this life and through all eternity, our only true joy will be knowing Him.

Because of this, each of us has a better life awaiting us. It doesn't matter where you are in your journey—whether you're seeking God or you're a new Christian or a mature believer. You have a better life awaiting you through a closer, more constant relationship with God.

I'm learning that such a closer, more constant relationship comes primarily through prayer. It comes through spending more of life turned toward God. Just as with marriage, communication is key to enjoying a closer relationship.

Perhaps nothing generates more fear, guilt, and uneasiness among people than the subject of prayer. We know we should pray more, but we're not sure how. It seems so fuzzy, scary, and difficult.

But let me assure you: we were made for God. Talking to Him is simple and natural. Your educational level, your culture, your financial status, your personality—none of that matters. We were all made for God. You can talk to Him and have a relationship with Him that is personal, natural, and ever growing.

You have no reason to be afraid. God your Father only gives good gifts. And all He ever asks of us is to trust Him one step at a time.

Hymn recording: Our Father in Heaven

Our Father in Heaven



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GLORIOUS FATHER

Irregular



Ephesians 2 & 3

(NASB)

And you were dead in your offenses and sins, in which you previously walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all previously lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the rest. But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our wrongdoings, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the boundless riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Therefore remember that previously you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision" which is performed in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the people of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who previously were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the hostility, which is the Law composed of commandments expressed in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two one new person, in this way establishing peace; and that He might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the hostility. And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— if indeed you have heard of the administration of God's grace which was given to me for you; that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before briefly. By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to mankind, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of

the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power. To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, and to enlighten all people as to what the plan of the mystery is which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things; so that the multifaceted wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him. Therefore I ask you not to become discouraged about my tribulations in your behalf, since they are your glory.

For this reason I bend my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner self, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

The Panorama of Ephesians 1 – 3

Chapter 1

God has blessed us in the power center of all reality with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Now our calling is to grasp and live into all He has done.

Chapter 2

Consider where He has brought us. We were dead in our sins, strangers, aliens, far away, when God brought us to life, drew us near, and made us treasured members of His own family. Now He is building all His varied children into a home for Himself, a holy temple that will unite all heaven and earth.

Chapter 3

In response to Him, strengthened by His Spirit within, rooted in His love, and beginning to grasp the full dimensions of that love, our burning desire is to be filled with all His fulness. trusting and glorifying Him who is able to do far beyond anything we can ask or even imagine.

Hymn recording: Ephesians 2 & 3

Ephesians 2 & 3



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774; arr. by Ken Bible HURSLEY L.M.

Romans 12:1-2

(NASB)

Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

1 Peter 1:14-21

(NASB)

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written: "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

The Only Reasonable Response

```
Savior,
      Father, and
      Judge,
when I think of
      all You are and
      all You have done for me,
I have only one reasonable response:
Today, Lord, I present my body to You as a sacrifice—
      living,
      holy, and
      pleasing.
I consider myself dead completely to sin and
      alive to You.
I present each of my members,
      each of my abilities,
      as instruments of Your righteousness.
All this is my reasonable, logical service to You who
      created me.
      loved me.
      called me, and
      redeemed me.
Father, I don't want to be
      squeezed into the mold of this present age.
Daily renew my thinking
that I may know and live Your will for me, O God-
      that which is best,
      fully pleasing and
      perfect in Your eyes.
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Hymn recording: Raised from Death to Love and Living

Raised from Death to Love and Living

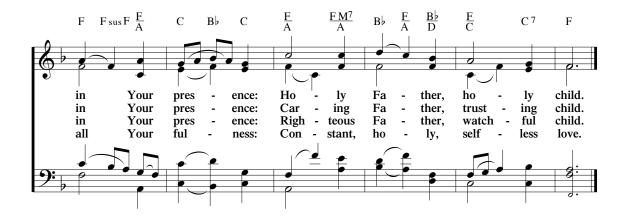
TUNE: Jesus, What a Friend of Sinners (HYFRYDOL)

1 Peter 1:14-21



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John 14:16-23

(NASB)

I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, so that He may be with you forever; the Helper is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him; but you know Him because He remains with you and will be in you.

"I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. After a little while, the world no longer is going to see Me, but you are going to see Me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I in you. The one who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him." Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, what has happened that You are going to reveal Yourself to us and not to the world?" Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will follow My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him."

Ephesians 3:14-21

(NASB)

For this reason I bend my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner self, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Engulfed in God

```
Father Creator,
Holy Brother,
Breath of God,
as we simply trust Your
      boundless,
      ever-seeking love,
You engulf us in
      Yourself.
You engulf us in
      Your holiness,
      Your goodness,
      Your light,
      Your joy, and
      Your perfect peace.
You bless us,
      enable us, and
      guide us
by
      Your limitless power,
      Your perfect wisdom, and
      Your unfailing love.
Praise to You,
      Father,
      Son, and
      Spirit!
You live in us, and
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we live in You!

Hymn recording: **Engulfed in God**

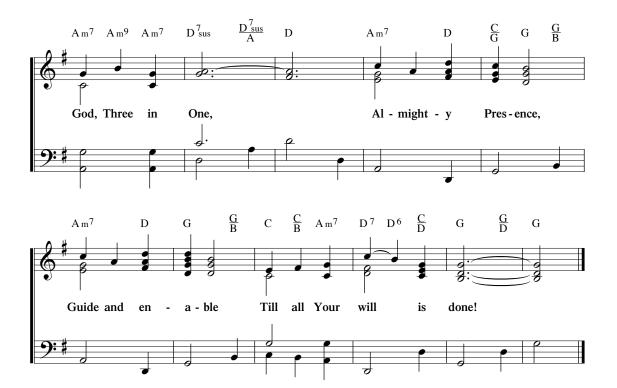
Engulfed in God

John 14:16-23; Ephesians 3:14-21



11.8.11.8.w.Ref.

MUSIC: Welsh Hymn Tune and Ken Bible



Luke 16:10-12

(NASB)

"The one who is faithful in a very little thing is also faithful in much; and the one who is unrighteous in a very little thing is also unrighteous in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true wealth to you? And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?"

2 Corinthians 5:21

(NASB)

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin in our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Colossians 2:9-10

(NASB)

In [Jesus Christ] all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over every ruler and authority;

2 Peter 1:4

(NASB)

He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world on account of lust.

1 John 3:1-3

(NASB)

See how great a love the Father has given us, that we would be called children of God; and in fact we are. For this reason the world does not know us: because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope set on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

The Wealth of Being

```
God is complete in Himself.
He has no need of anything outside Himself.
He is not enriched by "things".
His sufficiency,
His wealth is
      who He is.
His wealth is not the wealth of having,
      but the wealth of being.
Jesus shared this type of wealth.
He had no physical possessions
      except the clothes on His back,
yet He was sufficient for
      every need and
      every circumstance.
He apparently had no outstanding physical attributes –
      He has no stately form or majesty
       That we would look at Him,
      Nor an appearance that we would take pleasure in Him (Isaiah 53:2, NASB).
Yet the fullness of the infinite, all-glorious God
      dwelt in Him (Colossians 2:9).
He was the exact representation of
      God's very being (Hebrews 1:3).
So when God's purpose is complete,
      when we are all our loving God designed us to be,
      when we share the glory of Jesus Christ Himself,
our wealth.
our eternal riches
      will not be the wealth of having,
      but the wealth of being.
We will be
      complete,
      holy,
      glorious, and
      filled with unbounded life
in Him, and
He in us.
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Hymn recording: True Wealth

True Wealth

Luke 16:10-12; John 1:14; 16:23-27; 20:22; Ephesians 3:14-19; Colossians 2:9-10



WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible

BARBARA ALLEN O-2
C.M.