OLD TESTAMENT SELECTIONS FOR WEDDINGS

(Select one of the following Old Testament selections for the 1st reading)

1 Genesis 1: 26-28

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

God said: "Let us make man and woman in our image, after our likeness.

Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."

God created humanity in his image; in the divine image he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.

Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,

and all the living things that move on the earth."

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.

The Word of the Lord

2 Genesis 2: 18-24

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The LORD God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone.

I will make a suitable partner for him."

So the LORD God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air.

He brought them to the man to see what he would call them.

Whatever the man called each of them would be its name.

The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals;

but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man.

So the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep,

he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

The LORD God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man.

When he brought her to the man, the man said:

"This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;

This one shall be called 'woman,' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken."

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife,

and the two of them become one body.

The Word of the Lord.

3 Tobit 8: 5-7

A reading from the Book of Tobit.

Tobias arose from bed and said to his wife Sarah:

"My love get up! Let us pray and beg our Lord to have mercy on us and to grant us deliverance."

She got up, and they started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs.

He began with these words:

"Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors; praised be your name forever and ever.

Let the heavens and all your creation praise you forever.

You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve to be his help and support;

and from these two the human race descended.

You said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone.

Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine for a noble purpose.

Call down your mercy on me and on her and allow us to live together to a happy old age."

They said together, "Amen!"

The Word of the Lord.

4 Song of Songs 2: 8-10, 8:6-7

A reading from the Song of Songs.

Hark! My lover-here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Here he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattices.

My lover speaks; he says to me, "Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!

Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm;

For strong as death is love, relentless as the nether world is devotion.

Love's flames are a blazing fire. Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away.

The Word of the Lord

5 Sirach 26: 1-4, 16-21

A reading from the Wisdom of Sirach.

Happy the husband of a good wife, twice-lengthened are his days.

A worthy wife brings joy to her husband, peaceful and full is his life.

A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him who fears the LORD.

Be he rich or poor, his heart is content, and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband, her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;

Her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.

Choicest of blessings is a modest wife, priceless her chaste person.

Like the sun rising in the LORD'S heavens, the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The Word of the Lord.

6 Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.

She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.

She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands.

She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle.

She reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who reveres the LORD is to be praised.

Give her the reward of her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

NEW TESTAMENT SELECTIONS FOR WEDDINGS

(Select one of the following New Testament selections for the 2nd reading)

7 Romans 3:31b-35, 37-39

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and Sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us?

He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all,

how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is

at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities,

nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

8-A Romans 12:1-2, 9-18 (longer form) Offer your bodies as living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,

to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,

that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor. Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not be wise in your own estimation.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all.

If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.

The Word of the Lord.

8-B Romans 12:1-2, 9-13 (shorter form)

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,

to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,

that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor. Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality.

The Word of the Lord.

9 Romans 15:1b-3a, 5-7, 13 Welcome one another as Christ welcomed you

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters: We ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves; let each of us please our neighbor for the good, for building up.

For Christ did not please himself.

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord

you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

10 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Your body is a temple of the Spirit

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters: The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body;

God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

Whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body.

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

For you have been purchased at a price.

Therefore, glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

11 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8a If I do not have love, I gain nothing

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and Sisters: Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.

But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love,

I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;

if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

The Word of the Lord.

12-A Ephesians **5:2a**, **21-33** (longer form)

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and Sisters:

Live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us.

Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord.

The husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the Church, he himself the savior of the body. As the Church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the Church

and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the Church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also, husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it.

even as Christ does the Church, because we are members of his Body.

For this reason, a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the Church.

In any case, each one of you should love his wife as self, and the wife should respect her husband.

The Word of the Lord.

12-B Ephesians 5:2a, 25-32 (shorter form)

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters: Live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the Church

and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the Church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also, husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the Church, because we are members of his body.

For this reason, a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the Church.

The Word of the Lord.

13 Philippians 4:4-9 The God of peace will be with you

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and Sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding

will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,

if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me.

Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

14 Colossians 3:12-17 Over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and Sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones--holy and beloved--heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,

the peace into which you were also called in one body.

And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns,

and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

15 Hebrews 13:1-4a, 5-6b Let marriage be held in honor by all

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Brothers and Sisters: Let mutual love continue.

Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.

Be mindful of prisoners as if sharing their imprisonment,

and of the ill-treated as of yourselves, for you also are in the body.

Let marriage be honored among all and the marriage bed be kept undefiled.

Let your life be free from love of money but be content with what you have,

for he has said, I will never forsake you or abandon you.

Thus, we may say with confidence: The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid.

The Word of the Lord.

16 1 John 3:18-24 Love in deed and in truth

A reading from the First Letter of John.

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth

and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn,

for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask,

because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us.

Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them,

and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit that he gave us.

The Word of the Lord.

17 1 John 4:7-12 *God is love*

A reading from the First Letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God;

everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.

In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we might have life through him.

In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us

and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another.

No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us.

The Word of the Lord.

18 1 John 3:1-2 *We are God's children*

A reading from the First Letter of John.

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be *like him*, for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord.

19 Revelation 19:1, 5-9a Blessed are those who have been called to the wedding feast of the Lamb

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

I, John, heard what sounded like the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying:

"Alleluia! Salvation, glory, and might belong to our God."

A voice coming from the throne said:

"Praise our God, all you his servants, and you who revere him, small and great."

Then I heard something like the sound of a great multitude or the sound of rushing water or mighty peals of thunder, as they said:

"Alleluia! The Lord has established his reign, our God, the almighty.

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory. For the wedding day of the Lamb has come, his bride has made herself ready.

She was allowed to wear a bright, clean linen garment."

(The linen represents the righteous deeds of the holy ones.)

Then the angel said to me,

"Write this: Blessed are those who have been called to the wedding feast of the Lamb."

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL READING SELECTIONS FOR WEDDINGS

(Select one to be read by the priest or deacon)

20 Matthew 5:1-12a

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.

He began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you

and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

21 Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You are the salt of the earth.

But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?

It is no longer good for anything

but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket;

it is set on a lamp stand, where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others,

that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

22-A Matthew 7:21, 24-29 (longer form)

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of heaven,

but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them

will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.

The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house.

But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.

And everyone who listens to these words of mine but does not act on them will be like a fool who built his house on sand.

The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house.

It collapsed and was completely ruined."

When Jesus finished these words, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

22-B Matthew 7:21, 24-25 (*shorter form*)

Jesus said to his disciples,

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.

The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house.

It did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock."

23 Matthew 19:3-6

Some Pharisees approached Jesus, and tested him, saying, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause whatever?" He said in reply, "Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator made them male and female and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, man must not separate."

24 Matthew 22:35-40

One of the Pharisees, a scholar of the law, tested Jesus by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

Jesus said to him,

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart."

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and the first commandment.
The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

25 Mark 10:6-9

Jesus said,

"From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

So they are no longer two but one flesh.

Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate."

26 John 2:1-11

There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

There were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings,

each holding twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So, they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they did.

When the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine,

without knowing where it came from, although the servants who had drawn the water knew, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,

"Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

27 John 15:9-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,

just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my joy might be in you and your joy might be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you."

28 John 15:12-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you

to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you."

29 John 17:20-26

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

"I pray not only for my disciples, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me.

And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one,

I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one,

that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me.

Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am, they also may be with me,

that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

 ${\it Righteous\ Father,\ the\ world\ also\ does\ not\ know\ you,\ but\ I\ know\ you,\ and\ they\ know\ that\ you\ sent\ me.}$

I made known to them your name and I will make it known,

that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them."

PETITION SELECTIONS FOR WEDDINGS

(select one set of Petitions to be read by your reader)

30 Prayers of the Faithful

- 1. For our Holy Father on earth, the Pope, all the bishops and the clergy everywhere that they may lead us to deeper faith in God and a stronger love for others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2. For our president and all leaders of government that they may be effective in achieving peace and eliminating poverty, we pray to the lord.
- 3. For married persons that they may continue to give, be able to forgive, and find happiness deepen with the passing of each day, we pray to the Lord.
- 4. For N. and N., now beginning their life together, that they may have divine assistance at every moment, the constant support of friends, the rich blessing of children, a warm love reaching out to others, and good health until a ripe old age, we pray to the Lord.
- 5. For those who are sick, lonely, discouraged, or oppressed that they may be strengthened by God's help and aided by their friends, we pray to the Lord.
- 6. For those who have died, especially the relatives and friends of N. and N., (Names of deceased can be added and of all present at this wedding, that they may enjoy perfect joy in eternal life, we pray to the Lord.

31 Prayers of the Faithful

1. For leaders of Church and state for heads of institutions... that they will lead us and guide us in the search for God, in the search for peace, and for love among all people... – We pray to the Lord.

2. For all married people:

for those married years ago...for the new couple, N. and N. married today, for those who will marry tomorrow.... may they savor the joy of being together in God's life-giving love. – We pray to the Lord.

- 3. For all single people who look forward to a vocation of a life in serving others...
 - We pray to the Lord.
- 4. For the lonely old and the lonely young, for the hungry rich and the hungry poor, for the sick in body, mind and spirit, for the weakness in all of us...
 - We pray to the Lord.
- 5. For our relatives and friends who walk with us on life's journey and for those who have gone before us to the other side of life. For eternal joy and peace... --We pray to the Lord.

32 Prayers of the Faithful

God has given us promises in the Scripture we have heard; and **N**. and **N**. have given their promise of faithful love to each other in marriage. This hour of promise is also a time of prayer. So, we turn to our God in prayer as we respond with: "Lord, have mercy."

- 1. For our Church, to keep the promise of salvation, we pray to the Lord.
- 2. For our world, to keep the promise of peace, we pray to the Lord.
- 3. For our country, to keep the promise of freedom, we pray to the Lord.
- 4. For our parish, to keep the promise of discipleship, we pray to the Lord.
- 5. For our hearts, to keep the promise of loving, we pray to the Lord.
- 6. For our hands, to keep the promise of giving, we pray to the Lord.
- 7. For our lives, to keep the promise of growing, we pray to the Lord.
- 8. For married couples, to keep the promise of faithful love, we pray to the Lord.

33 Prayers of the Faithful

- 1. For **N.** and **N.**, who today bestowed upon each other the Sacrament of Marriage. May their lives together may be blessed with happiness and peace; may they help each other to become more fully human and Christian. We pray to the Lord.
- 2. For the parents of the bride and groom. May the joy at first bringing their children into the world may be renewed today in hope as they wish their children every blessing in their life together. We pray to the Lord.
- 3. For their families and friends. May the lord may bless all those who, by their prayers and practical help, have brought **N. and N.** to this joyful day. We pray to the Lord.
- 4. For those preparing for marriage. May they see today in this joyful celebration, a goal towards which they aim by honest and sincere preparation. We pray to the Lord.
- 5. For peace in our world and an end to violence. We pray to the Lord.
- 6. For all who have died and have gone before us, especially those who were near and dear to the bride and groom and their families. May they know the reward of their goodness in eternity. We pray to the Lord.