

The background of the entire page is a warm, golden-brown photograph. It depicts an open book with thick, aged pages. A simple wooden cross is placed on the right page, leaning against the book's spine. A dark brown braided cord with a wooden bead is draped over the left page. The lighting is soft and directional, creating gentle shadows and highlighting the textures of the wood and paper.

# Life-Affirming

# *Scriptures*

## and Bible Stories



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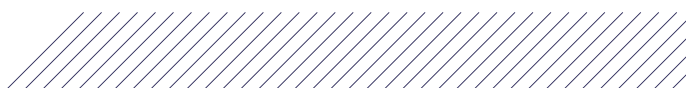
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# Life-Affirming Scriptures

*This section features Life-Affirming Scriptures,  
sorted by Book from the (NIV) Bible.*

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## Genesis

**1:27** So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

**2:7** Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

**4:8-11** <sup>8</sup>Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. <sup>9</sup>Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" <sup>10</sup>The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup>Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.

**9:1** Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth."

**9:5** And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each human being, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being.

**9:6** "Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind.

## Exodus

**1:15-21** <sup>15</sup>The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, <sup>16</sup>"When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live." <sup>17</sup>The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. <sup>18</sup>Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?" <sup>19</sup>The midwives answered Pharaoh, "Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive." <sup>20</sup>So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. <sup>21</sup>And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

**4:11** The Lord said to him, "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord?"

**20:13** "You shall not murder.

**21:22-25** <sup>22</sup>"If people are fighting and hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman's husband demands and the court allows. <sup>23</sup>But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, <sup>24</sup>eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, <sup>25</sup>burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.





**23:2** “Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong. When you give testimony in a lawsuit, do not pervert justice by siding with the crowd.

**23:7** Have nothing to do with a false charge and do not put an innocent or honest person to death, for I will not acquit the guilty.

## Leviticus

**19:18** “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

**19:32** “Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the Lord.

## Deuteronomy

**24:16** Parents are not to be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their parents; each will die for their own sin.

**27:24-25** <sup>24</sup>“Cursed is anyone who kills their neighbor secretly.” Then all the people shall say, “Amen!” <sup>25</sup>Cursed is anyone who accepts a bribe to kill an innocent person.” Then all the people shall say, “Amen!”

**30:19** This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live

## 1 Samuel

**2:6** The Lord brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up.

## 2 Kings

**16:3** He followed the ways of the kings of Israel and even sacrificed his son in the fire, engaging in the detestable practices of the nations the Lord had driven out before the Israelites.

**17:16-18** <sup>16</sup>They forsook all the commands of the Lord their God and made for themselves two idols cast in the shape of calves, and an Asherah pole. They bowed down to all the starry hosts, and they worshiped Baal. <sup>17</sup>They sacrificed their sons and

daughters in the fire. They practiced divination and sought omens and sold themselves to do evil in the eyes of the Lord, arousing his anger. <sup>18</sup>So the Lord was very angry with Israel and removed them from his presence. Only the tribe of Judah was left,

## 2 Chronicles

**28:3** He burned sacrifices in the Valley of Ben Hinnom and sacrificed his children in the fire, engaging in the detestable practices of the nations the Lord had driven out before the Israelites.

## Job

**10:8-12** <sup>8</sup>Your hands shaped me and made me. Will you now turn and destroy me? <sup>9</sup>Remember that you molded me like clay. Will you now turn me to dust again? <sup>10</sup>Did you pour me out like milk and curdle me like cheese, <sup>11</sup>clothe me with skin and flesh and knit me together with bones and sinews? <sup>12</sup>You gave me life and showed me kindness and in your providence watched over my spirit.

**31:15** Did not he who made me in the womb make them did not the same one form us both within our mothers?

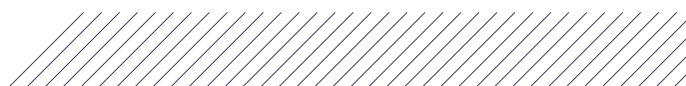
**33:4** The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

## Psalms

**8:4-5** <sup>4</sup>what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? <sup>5</sup>You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them] with glory and honor.

**10:12-15** <sup>12</sup>Arise, Lord! Lift up your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless. <sup>13</sup>Why does the wicked man revile God? Why does he say to himself, “He won’t call me to account”? <sup>14</sup>But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless. <sup>15</sup>Break the arm of the wicked man; call the evildoer to account for his wickedness that would not otherwise be found out.

**22:9-10** <sup>9</sup>Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even of my mother’s breast. <sup>10</sup>From birth I was cast on you; from my mother’s womb you have been my God.







**36:9-10** <sup>9</sup>For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. <sup>10</sup>Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in the heart!

**68:5** A Father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.

**71:6** From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb. I will ever praise you.

**72:13-14** <sup>13</sup>He has pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. <sup>14</sup>He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight.

**78:5-7** <sup>5</sup>He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children, <sup>6</sup>so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. <sup>7</sup>Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands

**82:3-4** <sup>3</sup>Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. <sup>4</sup>Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

**90:10** Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

**95:6** Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

**100:3** Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

**106:36-38** <sup>36</sup>They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them. <sup>37</sup>They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to false gods. <sup>38</sup>They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood.

**119:73** Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands.

**127:3** Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him.

**139:13-16** <sup>13</sup>For you created my inmost being; you

knit me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup>I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. <sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was women together in the depths of the earth, <sup>16</sup>your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

## Proverbs

**6:16-17** <sup>16</sup>There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: <sup>17</sup>haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood.

**8:36** But those who fail to find me harm themselves; all who hate me love death."

**14:12** There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

**21:13** Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.

**24:11-12** <sup>11</sup>Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. <sup>12</sup>If you say, "But we knew nothing about this," does he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay each person according to what he has done?

**28:13** Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

**31:8-9** <sup>8</sup>Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. <sup>9</sup>Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

## Amos

**1:13-14** <sup>13</sup>This is what the Lord says: "For three sins of Ammon, even for four, I will not run back [my wrath]. Because he ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead in order to extend his borders, <sup>14</sup>I will set fire to the walls of Rabbah that will consumer her fortresses amid war cities on the day of battle, amid violent winds on a stormy day.

## Isaiah

**1:17** Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the





oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

**40:11** He tends his flock like a shepherd; He fathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

**43:25** I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

**44:2** This is what the LORD says – he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you; do not be afraid, O Jacob, my servant, Jeshurun, who I have chosen.

**44:24** “This is what the Lord says—your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the Lord, the Maker of all things, who stretches out the heavens, who spreads out the earth by myself...”

**45:9-11** <sup>9</sup>“Woe to those who quarrel with their Maker, those who are nothing but potsherds among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, ‘What are you making?’ Does your work say, ‘The potter has no hands?’ <sup>10</sup>Woe to the one who says to a father, ‘What have you begotten?’ or to a mother, ‘What have you brought to birth?’ <sup>11</sup>“This is what the Lord says—the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker: Concerning things to come, do you question me about my children, or give me orders about the work of my hands?

**49:1** Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me, from my birth He has made mention of my name.

**49:5** And now the LORD says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord and my God has been my strength—

**49:15** Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!

**49:16** See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands, your walls are ever before me.

**57:15** For this is what the high and exalted One says—he who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.

**58:10** ...and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like noonday.

**64:8** Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

## Jeremiah

**1:5** “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

**7:6** if you do not oppress the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm,

**7:30** “The people of Judah have done evil in my eyes, declares the Lord. They have set up their detestable idols in the house that bears my Name and have defiled it.

**22:17** “But your eyes and your heart are set only on dishonest gain, on shedding innocent blood and on oppression and extortion.”

**32:34-35** <sup>34</sup>They set up their vile images in the house that bears my Name and defiled it. <sup>35</sup>They built high places for Baal in the Valley of Ben Hinnom to sacrifice their sons and daughters to Molek, though I never commanded—nor did it enter my mind—that they should do such a detestable thing and so make Judah sin.

## Ezekiel

**18:4** For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.

## Matthew

**5:13** You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

**19:14** Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

**22:37-39** Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with





all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

**25:34-36, 40-43, 45** <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on his right, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup>I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” <sup>40</sup>The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those on his left, “Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry, and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.” <sup>45</sup>He will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.”

**12:29-31** <sup>29</sup>“Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man’s house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house. <sup>30</sup>“Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. <sup>31</sup>And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.

## Luke

**1:15** For he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth.

**1:41-44** <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! <sup>43</sup>But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

## John

**1:3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

**16:21** A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come, but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world.

## Acts

**4:18-20** <sup>18</sup>Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup>But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! <sup>20</sup>As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

**17:24-25** <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. <sup>25</sup>And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.

## Romans

**9:20-21** <sup>20</sup>“But who are you, O man, to talk back to God?” Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, “Why did you make me like this?” <sup>21</sup>Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?

**10:14** How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

**12:1** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

## 1 Corinthians

**1:27** But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

**6:19-20** <sup>19</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you





have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup>you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

**15:25-26** <sup>25</sup>For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

## Galatians

**1:15-16** <sup>15</sup>But when God, who set me apart from birth and called me by his grace, was pleased <sup>16</sup>to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not consult any man.

**6:2** Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

## Ephesians

**1:3-4** <sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

**1:7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace...

**2:10** For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

## Colossians

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

## James

**1:27** Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

## 1 Peter

**2:16** Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

**4:15** If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler.

## 1 John

**1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

**2:1,2,12** <sup>1</sup>My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One ... <sup>2</sup>He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world... <sup>12</sup>I write to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.

**3:15** Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

## Revelation

**3:15-16** I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup>So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

**4:11** You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.







# Life-Affirming Bible Stories

*Anglicans For Life has compiled the following list of (NIV) Bible verses sorted by subject. These Life-Affirming stories feature topics of life and death in the Bible. We recommend that you use them in sermons, talks, articles, or discussions pertaining to the Sanctity of Life.*

## Classic reference acknowledging humanity of the baby in the womb.

**Luke 1:41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

## Pharaoh ordered the deaths of all male children.

**Exodus 1:15-22** <sup>15</sup>The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, <sup>16</sup>'When you help the Hebrew women in childbirth and observe them on the delivery stool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.' <sup>17</sup>The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. <sup>18</sup>Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, 'Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?' <sup>19</sup>The midwives answered Pharaoh, 'Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.' <sup>20</sup>So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. <sup>21</sup>And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own. <sup>22</sup>Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: 'Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live.'

## Gilead after the marauding army of Ammon ripped open their pregnant women and raped their daughters.

**Amos 1:13-15** <sup>13</sup>This is what the LORD says: "For three sins of Ammon, even for four, I will not turn back {my wrath}. Because he ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead in order to extend his borders, <sup>14</sup>I will set fire to the walls of Rabbah that will consume her fortresses amid war cries on the day of battle, amid violent winds on a stormy day. <sup>15</sup>Her king will go into exile, he and his officials together," says the LORD.

**2 Kings 8:12, 15-16** <sup>12</sup>'Why is my lord weeping?' asked Hazael. 'Because I know the harm you will do to the Israelites,' he answered. 'You will set fire to their fortified places, kill young men with the sword, dash their children to the ground, and rip open their pregnant women.' <sup>15</sup>But the next day he took a thick cloth, soaked it in warm water and spread it over the king's face, so that he died. Then Hazael succeeded him as king. <sup>16</sup>In the fifth year of Joram son of Ahab king of Israel, when Jehoshaphat was king of Judah, Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat began his reign as king of Judah.

**Hosea 13:13-16** <sup>13</sup>Pains as of a woman in childbirth come to him, but he is a child without wisdom; when the time arrives, he does not come to the opening of the womb. <sup>14</sup>"I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Where,





O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction? <sup>15</sup>I will have no compassion, even though he thrives among his brothers. An east wind from the Lord will come, blowing in from the desert; his spring will fail and his well dry up. His storehouse will be plundered of all its treasures. <sup>16</sup>The people of Samaria must bear their guilt, because they have rebelled against their God. They will fall by the sword; their little ones will be dashed to the ground, their pregnant women ripped open.'

### **The dreadful pall that gripped the families of Bethlehem after Herod slaughtered all their infant sons in a fit of jealousy.**

**Matthew 2:16-18** <sup>16</sup>When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. <sup>17</sup>Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: <sup>18</sup>A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.

### **Man has a natural inclination to death and defilement; all men have morbidly embraced death.**

**Romans 5:12** Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—

### **At the Fall, mankind was suddenly destined for death.**

**Jeremiah 15:2** And if they ask you, 'Where shall we go?' Tell them, 'This is what the LORD says: 'Those destined for death, to death; those for the sword, to the sword; those for starvation, to starvation; those for captivity, to captivity.'

### **Death has become our shepherd; our minds are fixed on death.**

**Romans 8:6** The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;

### **At the Fall, we were all at that moment bound into a covenant with death; we have contrived ingenious diversions to satisfy our fallen passions.**

**Psalms 49:14** Like sheep they are destined for the grave, and death will feed on them. The upright will rule over them in the morning; their forms will decay in the grave, far from their princely mansions.

**Proverbs 14:12** There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

**Proverbs 16:25** There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

**Isaiah 28:15** You boast, 'We have entered into a covenant with death, with the grave we have made an agreement. When an overwhelming scourge sweeps by, it cannot touch us, for we have made a lie our refuge and falsehood our hiding place.'

**Jeremiah 8:3** 'Wherever I banish them, all the survivors of this evil nation will prefer death to life,' declares the LORD Almighty.

### **Our hearts pursue death.**

**Proverbs 21:6** A fortune made by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor and a deadly snare.

### **Our flesh is ruled by death.**

**Romans 8:2** ...through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

### **We dance to death's cadences.**

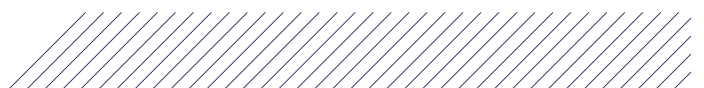
**Proverbs 2:18** For her house leads down to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead.

### **We descend to its chambers.**

**Proverbs 7:27** Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death.

### **Death is the just reward for sin.**

**Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.





## We have all sinned.

**Proverbs 8:36** But whoever fails to find me harms himself; all who hate me love death.

**Romans 3:10-18** <sup>10</sup>As it is written: 'There is no one righteous, not even one; <sup>11</sup> there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. <sup>12</sup>All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one. <sup>13</sup>Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.' 'The poison of vipers is on their lips. <sup>14</sup>Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness. <sup>15</sup> Their feet are swift to shed blood; <sup>16</sup>ruin and misery mark their ways, <sup>17</sup> and the way of peace they do not know. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear of God before their eyes.'

**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

## We can be attracted by Satan's dark shadow.

**2 Corinthians 11:14** And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

## Life is God's gift; the earth is rich with life.

**Genesis 1:20** And God said, 'Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.'

**Leviticus 11:10** But all creatures in the seas or streams that do not have fins and scales—whether among all the swarming things or among all the other living creatures in the water—you are to detest.

**Leviticus 22:5** ...or if he touches any crawling thing that makes him unclean, or any person who makes him unclean, whatever the uncleanness may be.

**Deuteronomy 14:9** Of all the creatures living in the water, you may eat any that has fins and scales.

## The crowning glory of this sacred life is man himself.

**Genesis 1:26-30** <sup>26</sup>Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' <sup>27</sup>So God created man in

his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup>God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.' <sup>29</sup>Then God said, 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup>And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.' And it was so.

**Psalms 8:1-9** <sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. <sup>2</sup>From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. <sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, <sup>4</sup>what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? <sup>5</sup>You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. <sup>6</sup>You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: <sup>7</sup>all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, <sup>8</sup>the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. <sup>9</sup>O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## The Lord God is the giver of life.

**Acts 17:25** And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.

## The Lord God is the defender of life.

**Psalms 27:1** The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

## The Lord God is the fountain of life.

**Psalms 36:9** For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.





## The Lord God is the prince of life.

**Acts 3:15** You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

## The Lord God is the restorer of life.

**Ruth 4:15** He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth.

## God has sent us the message of life.

**Acts 5:20** 'Go, stand in the temple courts,' he said, 'And tell the people the full message of this new life.'

## God has sent us the words of life.

**John 6:68** Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go?' You have the words of eternal life.'

## God has sent us the light of life.

**John 8:12** When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

## God has sustains the life of the world.

**John 6:51** I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

## God has sent us, Jesus to taste death for everyone and to abolish death for our sakes.

**1 Corinthians 15:54-56** <sup>54</sup>When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.' <sup>55</sup>'Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?' <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

**2 Timothy 1:10** But it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

**Hebrews 2:9** But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

## Jesus offers us new life, if we believe in Him.

**John 5:21** For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life; even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

## In Christ, God gives us the opportunity to choose between fruitful life on one hand and barren death on the other.

**Deuteronomy 30:19** This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.

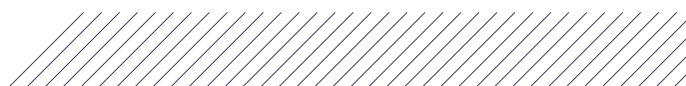
## Apart from Christ it is not possible to escape the snares of sin and death.

**Colossians 2:13** When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins; With Christ we are forgiven and made new.

**2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

## All those who hate Christ love death.

**Proverbs 8:36** But whoever fails to find me harms himself; all who hate me love death.







## All those who receive Christ enjoy a full life.

**2 Corinthians 2:16** To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task?

## Death through Adam, Life through Christ

**Romans 5:12-18** <sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—<sup>13</sup>for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come. <sup>15</sup>But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! <sup>16</sup>Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. <sup>17</sup>For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men.

**Colossians 1:17** He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. The disciples were emboldened to preach the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth.

## To violate the Sanctity of Life is to fly in the face of all that is holy, just and true; to invite judgment, retribution and anathema.

**Deuteronomy 30:19-20** <sup>19</sup>This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live <sup>20</sup>and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**Jeremiah 21:8-10** <sup>8</sup>Furthermore, tell the people, 'This is what the LORD says: See, I am setting before you the

way of life and the way of death. <sup>9</sup>Whoever stays in this city will die by the sword, famine or plague. But whoever goes out and surrenders to the Babylonians who are besieging you will live; he will escape with his life. <sup>10</sup>I have determined to do this city harm and not good, declares the LORD. It will be given into the hands of the king of Babylon, and he will destroy it with fire.'

**Romans 8:6** The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;

**Galatians 6:7** Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

## The Bible declares the Sanctity of Life in its account of God's creation.

**Genesis 1:26-28** <sup>26</sup>Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' <sup>27</sup>So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup>God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'

**Psalms 36:9** For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**Psalms 104:24** How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

**John 1:3-4** <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

**Acts 17:25** And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.

**1 Timothy 6:13** In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession,

## The Bible declares the Sanctity of Life in its description of God's sovereignty.

**Deuteronomy 32:39** See now that I myself am He! There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring





to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand.

**Job 10:12** You gave me life and showed me kindness, and in your providence watched over my spirit.

**Psalms 22:9** Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast.

**John 5:21** For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life; even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

**Romans 11:36** For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

**Colossians 3:4** When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

**Psalms 139:13-16** <sup>13</sup>For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup>I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. <sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, <sup>16</sup>your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

### The Bible declares the Sanctity of Life in its discussion of the incarnation of Christ.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**John 10:10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

**John 11:25** Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;'

**John 14:6** Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'

**Acts 2:22** Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.

**Romans 5:21** so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### The Bible declares the Sanctity of Life in its explanation of Christ's redemption.

**Matthew 18:10-11** <sup>10</sup>See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. <sup>11</sup>For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.

**Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

**Romans 8:11** And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

**1 Corinthians 2:16** For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

**2 Timothy 1:10** but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

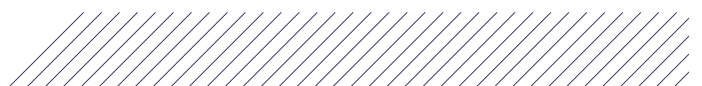
**1 John 5:11-12** <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

### The Bible declares the Sanctity of Life in its account of ethical justice.

**Genesis 9:6** Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man.

**Exodus 20:13** You shall not murder.

**Exodus 21:22-25** <sup>22</sup>If men who are fighting hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman's husband demands and the court allows. <sup>23</sup>But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, <sup>24</sup>eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, <sup>25</sup>burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.





**Leviticus 24:17** If anyone takes the life of a human being, he must be put to death.

**Isaiah 1:15** When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood;

**1 Peter 3:7** Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

**Deuteronomy 30:19** This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.

## The Bible declares the Sanctity of Life in its refrain to covenantal mercy.

**Psalms 24:1** The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;

**Psalms 103:19** The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

**Psalms 135:5-7** <sup>5</sup>I know that the LORD is great, that our Lord is greater than all gods. <sup>6</sup>The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths. <sup>7</sup>He makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth; he sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses.

**Psalms 147:15-18** <sup>15</sup>He sends his command to the

earth; his word runs swiftly. <sup>16</sup>He spreads the snow like wool and scatters the frost like ashes. <sup>17</sup>He hurls down his hail like pebbles. Who can withstand his icy blast? <sup>18</sup>He sends his word and melts them; he stirs up his breezes, and the waters flow.

**Matthew 28:18-20** <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

**Acts 1:8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

**Romans 5:6-11** <sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup>For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup>Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.



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