

**40** *Expectans, expectavi*

1 I waited patiently upon the Lord; \*  
he stooped to me and heard my cry.

2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; \*  
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; \*  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

4 Happy are they who trust in the Lord! \*  
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!  
how great your wonders and your plans for us! \*  
there is none who can be compared with you.

6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! \*  
but they are more than I can count.

7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure \*  
(you have given me ears to hear you);

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, \*  
and so I said, "Behold, I come.

9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: \*  
'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'"

10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; \*  
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.

11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; \*  
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.

12 You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; \*  
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever,

13 For innumerable troubles have crowded upon me;  
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see; \*  
they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails me.

14 Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me; \*  
O Lord, make haste to help me.

15 Let them be ashamed and altogether dismayed who seek after my life to destroy it; \* let them draw back and be disgraced who take pleasure in my misfortune.

16 Let those who say "Aha!" and gloat over me be confounded, \* because they are ashamed.

17 Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad; \* let those who love your salvation continually say, "Great is the Lord!"

18 Though I am poor and afflicted, \* the Lord will have regard for me.

19 You are my helper and my deliverer; \* do not tarry, O my God.

### **Wisdom 6:12-23**

<sup>12</sup> Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. <sup>13</sup> She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. <sup>14</sup> One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. <sup>15</sup> To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, <sup>16</sup> because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought. <sup>17</sup> The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction, and concern for instruction is love of her, <sup>18</sup> and love of her is the keeping of her laws, and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality, <sup>19</sup> and immortality brings one near to God; <sup>20</sup> so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

<sup>21</sup> Therefore if you delight in thrones and sceptres, O monarchs over the peoples, honour wisdom, so that you may reign for ever. <sup>22</sup> I will tell you what wisdom is and how she came to be, and I will hide no secrets from you, but I will trace her course from the beginning of creation, and make knowledge of her clear, and I will not pass by the truth; <sup>23</sup> nor will I travel in the company of sickly envy, for envy does not associate with wisdom.

### **Colossians 3:1-11**

<sup>3</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice,

slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

### **Luke 7:1-17**

<sup>7</sup>After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. <sup>2</sup>A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. <sup>3</sup>When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. <sup>4</sup>When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, 'He is worthy of having you do this for him, <sup>5</sup>for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us.' <sup>6</sup>And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, 'Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; <sup>7</sup>therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. <sup>8</sup>For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, "Go", and he goes, and to another, "Come", and he comes, and to my slave, "Do this", and the slave does it.' <sup>9</sup>When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, 'I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.' <sup>10</sup>When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

<sup>11</sup> Soon afterwards he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. <sup>12</sup>As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. <sup>13</sup>When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, 'Do not weep.' <sup>14</sup>Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, 'Young man, I say to you, rise!' <sup>15</sup>The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. <sup>16</sup>Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, 'A great prophet has risen among us!' and 'God has looked favourably on his people!' <sup>17</sup>This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.