

WORDS TO LIVE BY

J A C K B L A N C O



Pacific Press®
Publishing Association

Nampa, Idaho | Oshawa, Ontario, Canada
www.pacificpress.com

JANUARY 1

It is impossible for God to lie.—Hebrews 6:18, NKJV

God Kept His Promises

Genesis 3:15. After Adam and Eve sinned, the Lord said to the serpent: “I will put hostility between them and you, between Eve’s Seed and you. You will strike His heel, but He will crush your head.”

Genesis 9:11–17. God said to Noah, “I promise not to bring another worldwide flood on the earth again. I will set a rainbow in the clouds as evidence for everyone to see. This is the agreement that I am making with you and with those who will come after you.”

Genesis 12:1, 2. The Lord said to Abraham, “Take your family and leave the area where you’re living now and go to the land that I will show you. I will bless you, and all nations of the earth will be blessed because of you.”

2 Samuel 7:8–28. The Lord sent a message to David and said, “I took you from taking care of sheep to be ruler of my people.” David said, “Lord, what You promise comes true.”

Isaiah 7:14. “The Lord Himself will give you a sign. A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His name will be called Immanuel, meaning ‘God With Us.’”

Questions: Jesus promised He would come again. Do you believe that, and if so, are you living as if you really believe it?

JANUARY 2

For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen.

—2 Corinthians 1:20, NKJV

God's Promises for Today

Genesis 28:15. I am the God of Abraham; behold, I am with you. I will not leave you or forsake you, but keep My promise to go with you and be with you.

Exodus 6:6, 7. I am the Lord. I will take you to Myself to be part of My people, and you will know that I brought you out from the burdens you were carrying.

Exodus 19:5. If you will obey and keep My commandments, then you will continue to be My treasure. The whole world is Mine, but My people are special and you will be part of them, a kingdom of men and women committed to Me forever.

Questions: How committed are you to Jesus Christ? Totally? Are you sure?

JANUARY 3

Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him.—Psalm 37:5, NKJV

Deuteronomy 26:16–18. I, the Lord your God, am asking you to keep My commandments and to live by them with all your heart. When you do this, I promise that you will be a special people to Me, and I will value you above all nations as belonging to Me.

Joshua 1:7–9. The Lord promised: I will be with you. I will not fail you or forsake you. So be strong and of good courage. Be strong and very courageous. Read from My Book; keep what is written and meditate on what it says—then you will be blessed. Don't be afraid or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Ruth 1:16; 3:5; 4:17. Ruth, a Moabite, had lost her Jewish husband and said to Naomi, her mother-in-law, who was returning to Judah, “Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Whatever you tell me to do, I will do.” Then the Lord blessed Ruth, gave her a righteous husband, and helped her conceive. She had a son whom she named Obed, who was the grandfather of David.

Questions: Can you say what Ruth said and mean it? Will God's people be your people?

JANUARY 4

The LORD shall be thy confidence.—Proverbs 3:26, KJV

1 Samuel 2:30. The Lord said, “I will bless your house and your father’s house, that you should walk with Me forever. Those who honor Me, I will honor, but those who disrespect Me I cannot honor.”

1 Samuel 12:20, 22, 24. Do not turn away from following the Lord, but serve Him with all your heart. The Lord will not forsake His people, and it pleases Him to make you part of His people. Respect the Lord, and don’t forget the things He has done for you.

1 Samuel 16:7. The Lord is not impressed by how a man looks, how tall he is, what position he holds, or how well dressed he is, but the Lord looks at a man’s heart to know how much he loves Him.

Questions: When the Lord looks at your heart, what does He see? Do you appreciate what He has done for you? Have you told Him so?

JANUARY 5

The LORD grants wisdom! . . . He grants good sense to the godly—his saints.

—Proverbs 2:6, 7, TLB

2 Samuel 7:18–22. David said to the Lord, “Who am I, O Lord God? And what is my family that you have brought us this far? You have done all these things according to Your own heart of love and have let us know them. How great You are, Lord! There is no one like You; we have not heard of anyone like You.”

1 Kings 3:9–12. Solomon prayed, “O Lord my God, give me an understanding heart so I can know the difference between what is good and what is bad.” Solomon’s request pleased the Lord, and He said, “Because you didn’t ask for riches, a long life, or the destruction of your enemies, I will give you an understanding heart for which you asked. There will never be anyone like you either past, present, or future.”

1 Kings 8:56–60. Solomon blessed the people and said, “Not one word that the Lord has promised has failed. God will be with us as He was with our fathers; He will not leave us or forsake us. Walk in His ways and keep His commandments, that all the people of the earth may know that the Lord is God and there is no other.”

Questions: What is your reason for keeping God’s commandments? Is it because you want to get to heaven or because you love Jesus?

JANUARY 6

As long as I live, I will call on him when I need help.—Psalm 116:2, NET

2 Chronicles 34:31. Josiah the king made a covenant and promised to walk in the way of the Lord, to keep His commandments and His testimonies with all his heart and soul, which are written in the Book.

Job 13:15–18. Job said, “I will trust the Lord, though He decides to take my life, and I will watch my ways before Him. He is my salvation, and I know that I shall be justified.”

Job 19:25–27. Job further said, “I know that my Redeemer lives and that He will stand on the earth when the end comes. Even if I die before then and my body turns to ashes, yet in my new body I will see God. And I will see Him for myself and not by another.”

Questions: When you need help, do you only go to people, or do you also ask the Lord for help? Where do you begin?

JANUARY 7

The guardian of Israel does not doze or sleep.—Psalm 121:4, JB

Psalm 8:1–5. O Lord, how excellent is Thy name. When I consider the heavens, the moon and the stars which You made, what is man, that You are mindful of him and visit him? You made him only a little lower than the angels and crowned him with glory and honor.

Psalm 19:7–10. The law of the Lord is sure, making wise those who love Him and have simple faith. The instructions of the Lord are dependable, His commandments are pure. They enlighten the mind and bring joy to the heart. They are more valued than gold and are as sweet as honey.

Psalm 23:1–4. The Lord is my shepherd. He leads me to green pastures and quiet waters. He restores and refreshes my soul. He leads me in the way of righteousness. Though I have to walk through the valley of death, I will not fear, because You are with me and comfort me.

Questions: How much confidence do you have in the Bible? Would you be willing to sacrifice your life for your faith in the Bible? Are you sure?

JANUARY 8

They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed.

—Psalm 125:1, KJV

Psalm 37:3–7. Trust in the Lord, and do good. Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will listen to the desires of your heart. Commit your ways to the Lord and trust Him. Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him to bring about justice and make things right.

Psalm 51:6–12. Lord, you want to see truth in my heart, but You are the only one who can give wisdom to know right from wrong. Wash my sins away. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Don't turn me away from Your presence or take the Holy Spirit from me. Restore in me the joy of salvation, and uphold me with Your free spirit.

Psalm 84:10–12. Lord, one day with You in heaven is better than a thousand years here. I would rather be a doorkeeper there than to live here among the wicked. The Lord is like the light of the sun and a shield from evil. He will give us of His grace and not withhold one spiritual thing from us as we walk uprightly. O Lord, blessed are the men and women who put their trust in You.

Questions: Have you asked the Lord to give you a good heart? Are you trying to be good by yourself?

JANUARY 9

Unto You I lift up my eyes.—Psalm 123:1, NKJV

Psalm 91:2–5. I will say to the Lord, “You are my fortress, my God, in whom I will trust.” The Lord will cover you with His feathers and wings, and you can trust Him. His truth will be like a shield to you, protecting you from evil and from being deceived. You don’t have to be afraid of such darkness or of what comes to you during the day.

Psalm 101:1–3. I will sing of Your mercy, O Lord. Yes, I will sing of Your love and kindness. I will behave myself and walk wisely in my house. I will set no evil thing before my eyes. I hate those evil things and will not let them stay in my mind.

Questions: Do you enjoy singing to the Lord? Do you do it at home, too, or just when you’re in church?

JANUARY 10

I wait for the LORD, . . . in His word do I hope.—Psalm 130:5, KJV

Psalm 119:33–37. Teach me to walk in the way of Your law, and give me understanding of how to keep Your commandments. I will do with my whole heart what You have told me to do. I delight to do Your will. Help my heart to lean toward Your testimonies, and turn my eyes away from the world's riches.

Psalm 119:97–99, 105. O Lord, I do love Your law. I think about it all through the day. Through Your commandments You have made me wise, and they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation. Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light shining on my path.

Psalm 139:1–10. Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I get up. You read my thoughts before I speak. You are acquainted with all my ways. There is not a word in my mouth that You don't know. Such knowledge is beyond me—I can't understand it. Where can I go where You are not there? If I go up into the sky and fly to a place across the ocean, You are there. If I climb down into the earth, You are there. Your right hand is always holding onto me.

Questions: Do you realize that the Lord knows everything you say and the words you use to say it? Do you need to change? If so, how will you do it?