

#2. Psalm 103:1-5,10-12

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's...He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Bless the Lord

"Resolve to spend most of your time in thanksgiving and praising God. If you cannot do it with the joy that you should, yet do it as you can...for every man, good and bad, is bound to praise God, and to be thankful for all that he has received, and to do it as well as he can, rather than leave it undone... Doing it as you can is the way to be able to do it better. Thanksgiving stirreth up thankfulness in the heart."

Richard Baxter

Bless the Lord

“What is saving faith if it isn’t the radical dare to wholly trust? Stress and anxiety seem easier. Easier to let a mind run wild with the worry than to exercise discipline, to rein her in, slip the blinders on and train her to walk steady in certain assurance, not spooked by the specters looming ahead. Are stress and worry evidences of a soul too lazy, too undisciplined, to keep gaze fixed on God?...Isn’t joy worth the effort of trust?”

Ann Voskamp

Bless the Lord

The manna He sends for them to eat does more than just feed them. It also teaches them. First, it teaches them to act on the grace God gives today by collecting the manna and enjoying it. Second, it teaches them to trust Him for tomorrow. Every night they go to bed with empty cupboards. Every morning they wake up wondering whether the manna will be on the ground. Every morning it is.

Amy Kannel

Bless the Lord

It is only the present moment alone that holds the possibility of coming into the presence of God. Look around, breathe deep, enter into this one moment. Now could be an altar. This time could be a tabernacle. In God, there is no time, only eternity — or more simply, only now. His name is I am. Here — wherever my feet are — is where I can love Him.

One Thousand Gifts Devotional by Ann Voskamp