

## Psalm 97 New International Version

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad;  
let the distant shores rejoice.
- <sup>2</sup> Clouds and thick darkness surround him;  
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
- <sup>3</sup> Fire goes before him  
and consumes his foes on every side.
- <sup>4</sup> His lightning lights up the world;  
the earth sees and trembles.
- <sup>5</sup> The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,  
before the Lord of all the earth.
- <sup>6</sup> The heavens proclaim his righteousness,  
and all peoples see his glory.
- <sup>7</sup> All who worship images are put to shame,  
those who boast in idols—  
worship him, all you gods!
- <sup>8</sup> Zion hears and rejoices  
and the villages of Judah are glad  
because of your judgments, LORD.
- <sup>9</sup> For you, LORD, are the Most High over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.
- <sup>10</sup> Let those who love the LORD hate evil,  
for he guards the lives of his faithful ones  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- <sup>11</sup> Light shines<sup>[a]</sup> on the righteous  
and joy on the upright in heart.
- <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in the LORD, you who are righteous,  
and praise his holy name.

## Ephesians 1:15-23 New International Version

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, <sup>16</sup> I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit<sup>[a]</sup> of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup> I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly

realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

## **Luke 24:44-53 New International Version**

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” <sup>50</sup> When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup> And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.