

# The Prophets & Kings

## From Rehoboam To Zedekiah

### Book 1

#### A Daily Devotional Study Guide

Week 30

## “Believe God’s Word”

**Study:** Isaiah 29:1-12

**Reading:** Hebrews 3:7-19. 2 Chronicles 30:1-9

**Memory:** Romans 8:12

### What Does the Bible Say?

Hezekiah had brought great reforms to the land of Judah which led to great prosperity. With prosperity came the attitude of pride and self-reliance. Because of their righteousness, God had spared the nation of Judah from destruction from the Assyrians, but as their pride built up, so did their chances of being invaded. While the nations around them were falling to the Assyrians, the people of Judah rejoiced in their wealth, but also started to think that they were the ones responsible for their wealth and safety. Chapter 29 pictures the siege of Jerusalem that was going to come upon them and how God was going to use that siege to humble the people so they would turn back to Him.

The name Ariel could have meant “lion of God” or “hearth of God.” If it meant “lion of God” it was a picture of the great and strong city. If it mean “hearth of God” it was a picture of the place where the altar existed and where sacrifices were made. It was definitely a reference to the city of Jerusalem which was the center of Judah and held the feasts for the people year after year. God said He would bring distress and great moaning to the city and the city would become “like an Ariel.” This appears to be a play on words indicating how Jerusalem would become like an altar where there was great pain and loss of life (vs 1-2).

The city would be surrounded with the Assyrian army who would start to build siege towers and a siege ramp to conquer the city. This siege would carry on for a long period of time, humbling the great city and the inhabitants in it. Verse 4 gives the imagery of how they will speak from a very low position and seems to be a reference to how they will be humbled (vs 3-4).

Though the Assyrian attackers would surround Jerusalem and cause starvation, they would not be victorious. God would crush them quickly and they would run like the wind blows the chaff. The army of Israel would not need to fight since God would send His army to fight for them. God would use supernatural events to scare the army and turn them against each other. It was like they would simply vanish in one night

like a dream that is quickly forgotten. The enemies of Israel would be like a hungry person who dreamed of eating, only to wake up and find out he was still hungry and it was all a dream (vs 5-8).

Verse 9 transitions to a rebuke towards many of Judah who attempted to trust in earthly deliverance rather than turning to God. Prophets like Isaiah declared they would be delivered, but they were too blind to see what God was doing and how God was keeping His Word. The more they refused to listen, the more their eyes were blinded to the truth. Isaiah compared these visions to those who have a sealed book. They first complain that they can't read the book because it is sealed, then they complain they can't read the book because they don't know how to read. Basically, the prophecy given was plain and clear if they chose to believe what Isaiah said, but they didn't want to listen and believe (vs 9-12).

## **How Does this Apply to Me?**

Do you realize why you can live life without fear? You can live life free from fear because you can trust that God is in control. God told the people of Judah exactly what was going to happen, but most of them didn't want to listen and didn't want to hear what Isaiah had to say. Part of the reason for this as you will read in the next few days is that they were so focused on the earthly way of doing things. They would seek help from Egypt, even though God told them not to. They did this because it is what all the other nations did. They simply followed human reasoning and thinking which doesn't always correspond with a life of faith and trust. Choose to trust God. Choose to listen to His Word. Choose to believe that He will do what He says.

## **Suggestions for Prayer**

- \* Thank God for telling you about the future.
- \* Ask God to help you believe His Word.
- \* Praise God because He knows exactly what will happen.

## **Thought for the day**

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What is Jerusalem called (vs 1)? Why?

What happened on a regular basis in Jerusalem (vs 1)?

What was God going to do to Jerusalem (vs 2)?

How was He going to do this (vs 3)?

What would this do to the inhabitants of Jerusalem (vs 4)?

Why do you think God would allow this?

What did Isaiah compare the enemies of God to (vs 5)?

How quickly could God take care of the enemies (vs 5)?

What forces does God have the power to use (vs 6)?

What did he compare the forces of the enemy to (vs 7)?

What does verse 8 mean?

What were the people of Jerusalem compared to (vs 9)?

*\*\*\*They were acting as astonished, blind, drunk and staggering people. Instead of people who were thinking clearly and could understand what was taking place, they were not in their right minds.*

What had God allowed to happen (vs 10)?

Does this mean the people didn't have a chance to understand (vs 10)?

*\*\*\*Most of the time when Scripture talks about God hardening a person's heart it is the result of God giving more direct revelation. It isn't that God makes it so they won't hear, but the more He does things and says things, the harder hearts become.*

What was the vision compare to (vs 11)? What excuses did the people make (vs 11)?

# *“Not With Our Hearts*

**Study:** Isaiah 29:13-24

**Reading:** 2 Timothy 3:1-17

**Memory:** Romans 8:11

**W**hen I was around 12 years old, some of my siblings thought it would be a great idea to get a professional picture taken of us five children to give to my mom as a gift. I hated pictures and didn't like the idea. My siblings had to force me to participate and I made it absolutely clear that I was not happy with having to get my picture taken. I acted extremely stubborn and made everyone miserable that day. Sure, I was there in body, but my heart was far from what was going on.

Today, we will see how we can do the same when it comes to following God. We have our own idea of what religion should be like and we choose to worship God, but on our own terms. Though we can have a form of religion, our hearts can be far from God.

## **What Does the Bible Say?**

Why was God going to allow the Assyrians to cause so much pain and heartache in Jerusalem? It was because they honored Him with their words, but not with their hearts. They did fear God, but not in the way they should have. They feared Him because of some of the false teaching about Him that men had made up. We are not given the full details of this, but we see examples of this type of religion all around us today. People talk about God and even include His name in much of what they do, but they do not follow Him from their hearts. Men make up their own idea about who God is and what He desires rather than following the truth of God that is revealed in His Word (vs 13).

God was going to reveal great and wonderful things to the people, showing them who He really was. The god that some of the religious leaders had created in their earthly wisdom would be revealed as a false God and those who were once looked to as wise, would find themselves looking like fools (vs 14).

There were people in Jerusalem who were scheming and planning

things that were not part of God's plan, but they thought that God would not see them or hear what they were saying. They were looking to their earthly wisdom for help thinking that they were wise enough to work their way out of difficulties rather than turning to God who had the true answers. They were acting like the clay trying to instruct the potter in what He should do to form them. Like the creation telling the Creator what to do (vs 15-16).

They did not understand that God had a plan and had the ability to do things beyond their understanding. God had the power to turn the great forests of Lebanon into fruitful trees and turn lands where fruit trees were grown into thick forests. God had the ability to make the deaf hear and open the eyes of the blind. He had the ability to turn the natural world upside down and make the poor rich and the rich poor. He could exalt the despised to a position of honor and take those who were honored and bring them to disgrace. The message was clear. If they turned to God, and trusted in His ways, they could see Him do incredible things (vs 17-21).

God had the ability to restore the fortunes of the Israelites. It is unclear if the prophecy was directed only towards the millennial kingdom or if it is also a reference to the deliverance that God would provide them from the Assyrian army. Whichever the case was, God was indicating that He would not forget about His people (vs 21-24).

## **How Does this Apply to Me?**

What does it look like to have a form of godliness, but not truly follow God from the heart? Look at many of the religions that exist in the world today. Look at many of the churches that meet each Sunday morning and present a form of godliness, without the true power of the Word of God. Some churches overemphasize the love of God and give the idea that all people will go to heaven. They created their own god in their minds, choosing not to present the true God of the Bible. Some churches over emphasize rules and regulations giving a false view of God rather than the balanced approach that the Bible represents. This leads to people who have a form of religion, but have hearts far from God. The way to avoid this is to be a student of the Word of God. Reading, studying and obeying the Word will give you the true view of who God is and will allow you to follow Him from your heart.

How did the people honor God (vs 13)?

How did they not honor God (vs 13)?

What do you think the end of verse 13 means?

How can you see this same type of thinking in society today?

What was God planning to do for His people (v 14)?

What was going to fade away (vs 14)?

Why do you think it is often easier to trust in man's wisdom than in God's wisdom?

What do men often think (vs 15)?

Why do you think they tend to think this?

What two illustrations did Isaiah use to reveal the foolishness of this type of thinking (vs 16)?

How have you seen yourself act foolishly this way at times?

What did God say He was going to do in a little while (vs 17)?

How was God going to miraculously turn things around (vs 18)?

Who are the people who God said would experience His great joy and exaltation (vs 19)?

Does this mean you have to be poor to be happy? Explain.

Who was God going to choose to punish (vs 20-21)?

What was God going to do for those who followed Him (vs 22)?

How will people view God (vs 23)?

***“Believe God’s Word”***

**Study:** Isaiah 30:1-7

**Reading:** James 1:1-18

**Memory:** Romans 8:12

**S**everal years ago I was teaching a financial small group study. In this study we learned that the Bible makes over 2,300 references to money and how God desires us to use what He has entrusted us with. When we reached the portion of the study where we looked at the biblical perspective of taking car loans and going into debt for a vehicle, one of the ladies mentioned how she never even stopped to think about God's plan. She described how when she wanted a vehicle, she would just go to the bank, take out a loan and have a car. After all, that is what everyone else in the world does. (I am not saying it is wrong to take a loan out for a car, but there are several biblical principles about loans and seeking God for wisdom.) What stood out to this woman is that she realized she never stopped once to ask God what He wanted or to seek His Word for wisdom when it came to buying a car, she just did what the rest of the world around her did.

Today, we are going to see that Israel was rebuked for not seeking help from God, but for acting in the same way all the nations around them acted.

## **What Does the Bible Say?**

Chapter 30 begins with the children of Israel being described as “stubborn children.” What this meant was clear because God declared that His children were not choosing to carry out the plan of their Father, but wanted to do things their own way. Instead of turning to God for help when the Assyrian attack was drawing near, they chose to turn to Egypt for help. This added to the sin which they were already committing and made their problems much worse. They did not even consult God about this, but chose to ask for help from other nations before asking help from their heavenly Father. They were not going to find the help that they wanted from Egypt. Instead, this action was simply going to bring more shame to them as a nation. They were going to be even more humiliated after they finally came to the realization that they made a huge error (vs 1-3).

The people of Judah did not just think about an Alliance with Egypt, but tried to make one. They had sent ambassadors to Zoan and Hanes,

two powerful cities in Egypt, in an attempt to build an alliance with the Egyptian nations. These delegations were wasting their time because they were seeking help from a people who could not help them. The help that Egypt would provide, wouldn't really be help at all (vs 4-5).

Verses 6-7 present an interesting oracle directed towards the animals that was carrying a caravan of Israelites to Egypt. This caravan was loaded down with great treasure as the Israelites attempted to pay for the help of the Egyptians. They would get nothing in return for all of this money except for empty promises from Egypt. Egypt was given the name Rahab-Hem-Shebeth. The words indicated that Egypt had great power, but would sit still and do nothing (vs 6-7).

### **How Does this Apply to Me?**

Are you like the Israelites? When problems or difficulties come your way do you look for earthly power and help or do you seek after God? Are you like that stubborn child and want to do things your way rather than submit to God to do things His way? It is easy to see the faults of Egypt in this passage, but it is much harder to see your own failures in this area. When foreign nations attacked, it was simply natural for one nation to pay another nation to try to help them. That is what most of the nations around Israel did. There are things in your life, where it is just part of society for you to act and respond without seeking the help and direction of God. Take time to carefully evaluate your life today and ask God to show you areas where you are not seeking His direction.

### **Suggestions for Prayer**

\* Thank God for guiding and directing in your life.

### **Thought for the day**

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What did God call the people of Israel (vs 1)?

Why did He call them this (vs 1)?

What had the nation of Israel attempt to do (vs 1)?

What did Israel fail to do (vs 2)?

Why do you think they went to Egypt for help (vs 2)?

What was God going to do as a result of Judah's poor choice (vs 3)?

How have you seen God do this with some of your choices?

What did the people of Judah try to do (vs 4)?

What was going to be the result of this poor choice (vs 5)?

What was the oracle about in verses 6-7?

What did this convoy risk in trying to go for help (vs 7)?

*\*\*\*This emphasized that they risked their lives to make a trip to Egypt. They not only were at the mercy of the wild beasts, but thieves as well since they were carrying a great treasure with them. They made this sacrifice and risked their lives, but gained nothing for it.*

What was not going to profit them (vs 6)?

Why is this a vital lesson for believers today?

How is Egypt's help described (vs 7)?

What did God call Egypt (vs 7)? Why?

Describe a time in your life where you sought earthly help, but failed to seek the help of God?

# “Running On Your Horses”

**Study:** Isaiah 30:8-17

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 14:1-23

**Memory:** Romans 8:12

Several years ago after I preach a message, a lady came up to me and told me she liked what I had to say, but she didn't like the teaching about blood. She didn't think in our society today we should talk about blood and that it wasn't necessary when it came to talking about the Bible. I tried to explain to her how important blood is when it comes to our salvation. I tried to get her to understand that Jesus had to shed his blood to be the sacrifice for our sin and it is blood that washes away arson. She simply just didn't care because she didn't like the idea of blood.

Today we are going to see that many people want a religion, but they want it on their own terms. They don't want to hear the truth of the word of God, they want to hear about the God they make up in their own minds.

## What Does the Bible Say?

God wanted Isaiah to make a permanent written record of Israel's foolish actions so people could learn from their mistakes for the rest of time. Verse 9 is filled with a very strong rebuke to the Israelites because they were rebellious, full of lies, not wanting to hear God and disobedient to His instructions. They didn't want the prophets to tell them the truth about what God said. They wanted to hear good things from the prophets and not the negative things the prophets were continually speaking out of their mouths. One thing they wanted nothing to do with was hearing the truth about the “Holy One of Israel.” This indicated that they wanted a god they could make up in their own minds to worship who would do things their way (vs 8-11).

Their disobedience to God was shown in the way that they oppressed the poor and were perverted in their justice. They took advantage of the less fortunate, and were only in life for themselves. This was one of the

main reasons that God was going to judge them. As a result of their actions, they were going to face sudden and severe judgment. Isaiah compared it to a potter's vessel that is broken very quickly, and destroyed. Once it has destroyed, it is just picked up and discarded in the fire or dropped into the water. Basically God was describing how they would become almost useless as a nation (vs 12-14).

Israel could have been delivered from the problems they were experiencing, if they chose to rest in God and trust in His strength. But they were not willing to trust in Him. Instead they decided that they were going to try to run away and do things their own way. They trusted in the human power of their horses to help them escape, but that would not be enough. The past history of Israel showed that God's power would cause 1000 men to flee when one Israelite soldier would attack. Yet when only five opposing soldiers attack, the Israelites were fearful and chose to run away. This was expressing how much they chose not to trust in God and to trust in their own power. As a result of their failure to trust in God, they would be a picture for many years to come of what not to do. They would be like a banner on the top of the hill warning others not to do the same (vs 15-17)

## How Does this Apply to Me?

Are you heading the warning that God gave to Israel? Are you trusting in yourself and your human power and ability, or are you trusting in God? With God's help and power you have the ability to do amazing things. You could actually be a banner for others to look to and follow, but when you trust in yourself you are failing not to heed the warning signs that the Israelites presented, and you will often face many of the same results. So you may not physically be conquered in battle, your spiritual battle will end in failure. By trusting in God, and looking to Him for help, you will be amazed at the peace and rest that you will find. That is what God wanted to give to Israel, but instead they hopped on the horses and tried to get away. Sometimes God will bring difficulties in our lives to drive us to Him to experience that peace, but when we hop on earthly horses, or trusting ourselves and our way, then we miss out on a great blessing that God has for us.

## Suggestions for Prayer

\* Ask God to help you heed the warnings that He gives you in His Word.

What did God tell Isaiah to do with the writing (vs 8)?

What did He want this writing to become (vs 8)?

What descriptions did God give of the Israelites (vs 9)?

Describe how you have seen some of these happen in your life occasionally.

What did the people tell the prophets (vs 10)?

How do you see the same thing happen in many churches today?

What didn't they want to hear (vs 11)?

What was going to bring destruction (vs 12)?

What did God compare their destruction to (vs 13)?

What illustration did God use to compare to the destruction He was going to cause (vs 14)?

How did God want to provide salvation (vs 15)?

What do you think this meant?

What did they decide to do instead of trusting in God (vs 15-16)?

How have you seen yourself act in a similar way in your life?

What do you have the power to do with God's help (vs 17)?

What did God say the Israelites would become like (vs 17)?

What did that mean?

## ***“Waiting to Show Mercy”***

**Study:** Isaiah 30:18-33

**Reading:** James 1:13-27

**Memory:** Romans 8:12

### **What Does the Bible Say?**

After finishing a description of how the nation of Israel was full of rebellious people, chapter 30 describes how God wants to be gracious to His people. Though they were living in rebellion, He longed for them to turn back to Him so He could show mercy to them. This is a tremendous picture of the character of God. God is not some angry man waiting for believers to fail. He is actually a gracious and merciful God longing for people to repent (vs 18).

This grace would be seen in the sparing of Jerusalem from the destruction of the Assyrians. He was waiting to hear the cries of His people and when they choose to call out to Him, He was going to step in and deliver them. They would have to experience difficult times, but God would choose to act and they would see His great power. When they recognized the true voice of the Lord and chose to obey it, they would destroy their idols and turn to God (vs 19-22).

God would not only deliver them, but would cause them to prosper once again. (This appears to be another prophecy which had a partial short term fulfillment after the Assyrian victory, but looked forward to a long term fulfillment in the millennial kingdom.) Their land would produce abundant crops and their animals would be strong and well fed. The nation would have abundant water which would lead to all types of blessings in the land. The strongholds of their enemies would fall and they would be victorious (vs 22-25).

Verse 26 pictures a time where the moon and sun will be brighter. This is not something that is negative, but very positive and will allow the land to heal. Though God gave them temporary relief from the Assyrians, Jesus will one day return and give long term relief from all of Israel's enemies. Verses 27-28 picture the Messiah coming to the earth in great fury to enact judgement upon the enemies of Israel. Jesus will bring great ruin to all those who oppose Him and bring great victory for the children of God (vs 26-28).

The people of God will greatly rejoice at this and will sing songs of rejoicing to their God. They will have a great celebration exalting God. The people will hear the voice of God clearly and will see His power. He will unleash the supernatural powers that He has over His enemies and they will be destroyed (vs 29-30).

Verse 31 then appears to hop back to the current time as it described how the Assyrian army will be shattered. They will be defeated which will cause great celebration among the people. Verse 33 references “Topeth” which was a valley south of Jerusalem described elsewhere at the Hinnom Valley or Gehenna. It was a place where things were burnt and destroyed. Here, the picture is that of a fire being ready to destroy the king of Assyria and bring complete desolation to those who had opposed God (vs 31-33).

## **How Does this Apply to Me?**

In the reading today, God described how difficulties would be faced by the Israelites, but out of those difficulties, they would see and experience the glory of God. This idea is mentioned throughout Scripture. When you choose to follow God, this does not always mean that your life will be easy. There are times of trials and testings that will come into your life, just as they do in the lives of unbelievers. Yet, when you trust God and look to Him, you can experience the times of rejoicing after those things have accomplished the plan of God. God allows things or brings things into your life to help grow and mature you. When you face difficulties, don’t get upset at God, thank Him for those things because they are for your good.

## **Suggestions for Prayer**

- \* *Thank God for the trials and difficulties you face.*
- \* *Thank God for giving you future hope.*

## **Thought for the day**

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What is God waiting for (vs 18)?

What does He want to do for you (vs 18)?

What was God going to do for the people of Israel (v 19)?

What had God allowed to take place (vs 20)?

Why do you think God is described as a teacher in verse 20?

What does God want you to do (vs 21)?

What would be a sign of their obedience to God (vs 22)?

What was God going to provide from them (vs 23)?

What will the animals have (vs 24)?

Why was water so important (vs 25)?

What was going to happen to the moon and the sun (vs 26)? What do you think this meant?

How was God going to gently help His people (vs 26)?

How is God pictured in verse 27-28? Why?

What will the action of God do for His children (vs 29)?

What will God cause to happen (vs 30)?

Who was God going to conquer (vs 31)?

How will the people of God respond to this (vs 32)?

Where was Topeth (vs 33)?

Why do you think it was mentioned?



# “Counting On A Failure”

**Study:** Isaiah 31:1-9

**Reading:** Matthew 7:7-11, Jeremiah 29:10-14

**Memory:** Romans 8:12

In this day of online shopping, I really have found enjoyment of being able to shop from the comfort of my home. The thing that bothers me the most with shopping from home is having to count on somebody to deliver my item in time. Since I have used eBay for so many years, I like to try to buy things off of eBay to support other eBay sellers. The biggest problem I have found is that there are many sellers who take several days before they even ship an item out. I understand that sometimes there will be a delay in the mail, and I am fine with that. For some reason, it just bothers me when I order something and they don't ship it out for 4 to 5 days. Most of the time when I buy an item it is because I am in need of that item sooner or later. I have found that if I really need something I can't count on online sites, but need to go to a brick and mortar store to pick that item up.

Today, we are going to be reminded of the importance of trusting in God more than trusting in man. We will be reminded of how natural it is to trust in the earthly things around us and completely forget about the power of God. This happened to Israel many times and can happen to you as well.

## What Does the Bible Say?

Isaiah greatly emphasized the futility of looking to the nation of Egypt for help. At that time, Egypt was one of the most powerful nations in the region and they were looked at by many in Judah as their only hope for deliverance from the Assyrians. For many in those days, Egypt seemed like the natural place to turn because of their strong horsemen and military power. Yet, the thing they failed to realize is that God wanted to be their deliverer. They didn't even think about asking God for help but naturally looked to Egypt (vs 1).

In God's all knowing wisdom, He would send disaster to those who opposed Him and He could not be stopped. The Egyptians on the other hand were simply mere men. The horses were simply animals with

human power and human strength. All God had to do is stretch out His hand and man's earthly powers would fall. No matter how much they try to join their forces, they could not withstand the power of God (vs 2-3).

God compared Himself to a lion that was about to kill and eat his prey. As much as the shepherds would yell and throw rocks attempting to stop the lion, the lion would not be denied. God's power was greater than the power of Egypt and greater than the power of Assyria. He compared His protecting arms to that of birds hovering over a region, keeping it safe. God was going to hover over Jerusalem and rescue it from any harm that He did not want to happen (v 4-5).

The desire that God had for his people is that they turned back to him. Their idols and false gods would not have the ability to help them. These false idols have led them into deeper sin rather than the deliverance that God could bring. The Assyrians would not be successful in their attack. They would not be destroyed by men though, but they would be destroyed by the power of God. God was going to cause terror to rise among them and panic among the soldiers. They would kill each other and everyone would go in different directions. They would be like people thrown into a furnace, and that furnace was the area around Jerusalem were they were encamped (vs 6-9).

## How Does this Apply to Me?

Once again we are confronted with the idea of trusting in ourselves or trusting in God. This was a common problem the Israelites experienced. That also means that it is a common problem that we as New testament believers experience as well. As has been mentioned before in the devotional book, one of the easiest things for us to do is to trust our human understanding. This makes natural sense, because we are human. Yet God works things differently than we do as humans. He knows so much more than we do, and its so much stronger than we are. So how do you know if you are trusting yourself or if you are trusting in God? The answer to this should be fairly simple. If you are praying about it, searching God's /Word for answers, and seeking wise counsel from godly individuals, most likely you are trusting in God. If you act based on the advice of the culture around you, or what everybody else is doing, then most likely you are acting in your own power and wisdom.

Why would the Israelites want to turn to Egypt for help (vs 1)?

What are areas where you tend to turn to for help instead of turning to God?

What will God cause to happen (vs 2)?

Who will God rise against (vs 2)?

What is the difference between the Egyptians and God (vs 3)?

What will happen when God stretches out His hand (vs 3)?

What did God compare Himself to in verse 4?

What did he mean by this?

What did God compare Himself to in verse 5?

What did He mean by this?

What did God want His children to do (vs 6)?

What would they need to put aside (vs 7)?

What was going to happen to the Assyrians (vs 8)?

What did the end of verse 8 indicate?

Who was going to be in terror (vs 9)?

*\*\*\*The strongest of men who were the “rocks” that other people looked to would not be able to stand against the power of the Lord.*

Who was going to be in panic (vs 9)?

What do you think the end of verse 9 means?

*Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. 12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.*