

Third Quarter Events

July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day! God has blessed America and we pray for His continued blessing.



July 11<sup>th</sup> – Heart to Heart Christmas in July with a white elephant gift exchange, ugly sweater contest, Christmas carols and assorted appetizers to eat.

August 1<sup>st</sup> – Heart to Heart Days for Girls speaker, accepting donations both monetary and material – dark underwear with no faces, bugs, animals, or people – Women’s S, M, L or Girls size 12, 14, or 16 underwear – 100% cotton material or flannel (same rules as underwear), or zip lock bags. Will be serving sloppy joes and tater tots.

August 17<sup>th</sup> – A Secret Sister event is being planned – more information will be announced later.

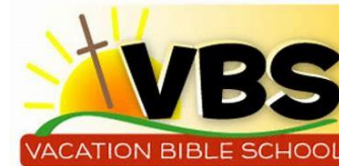
September 5<sup>th</sup> – Heart to Heart “paint a sign” night. Chili-mac will be served.

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Vacation Bible School

The 2019 VBS theme is GiddyUp Junction and will be held July 22 – 26 – 9:30 ‘til noon for children 4 years old thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Volunteers are needed still – a craft worker and 2 helpers in the boy’s classes. Anyone interested in helping should see Dianna Davis to apply.



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Start thinking up a design and plan a strategy for October 5<sup>th</sup>'s Trunk or Treat. It will be held in the afternoon from 3 pm to 5 pm. Nothing gory or scary! There will be a contest to choose the best decorated trunk and the best costume. Check places like Pinterest and other online sites for ideas. There will also be games and hayrides around the church property.

## Forgiveness

As daughters of God, we are called to be Women of Forgiveness- to live and breathe forgiveness, to share and show forgiveness as we go about our daily lives. In light of the high cost of the forgiveness we have received in Jesus, here are a few important things for us to remember about forgiveness.

Forgiveness is not:

- **Ignoring Reality**—The act of forgiveness itself says that something needs to be forgiven. Something painful happened and it warrants forgiveness. Forgiveness is not brushing aside pain.

- **Always Re-engaging in relationship with those who've hurt you**—There can actually be forgiveness without reconciliation. Now, of course, in marriage, friendships, church relationships—as long as it's safe—it's crucial that we do the hard, holy work of reconciliation. But there are some relationships we don't have to re-engage with. For instance, as a seventh grader, I was assaulted on a school bus. I have done the long, hard, grueling work of forgiving my assaulters. But I'm not going to call them up for a Karaoke night. Forgiving them doesn't mean I will ever reenter into a relationship with them. Forgiveness sets me free from emotional captivity to them. Forgiveness actually cuts unhealthy soul ties and harmful relational connections with our abusers, captors, and assaulters.

- **Permission**—Forgiveness is not permitting the harm or wrongdoing. It's not saying, "Oh, it's okay that you hurt me." It's saying, "Even though you hurt me, I will release you from the debt." In calling us to forgive, God is calling us to be victors instead of victims!

- **A Quick Fix**—Sometimes we are called to forgive again and again and again. In Matthew 18:21, Peter asked Jesus how many times he should forgive his brothers and sisters who hurt him. Peter is hoping for a number, but Jesus essentially says, The point is not the number. You don't hit a certain amount of forgiveness's and then move on. Jesus calls his followers to forgive as a way of life. As Martin Luther King, Jr. famously said, "Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a constant attitude."

- **Always Reciprocal**—Sometimes you forgive someone, but they are never are going forgive you. You can't control their response. You can only control your obedience to God.

- **A Feeling; It's a choice.** Forgiveness says, "I choose to forgive you even when I don't feel like it." Thankfully, God is so kind to us, that the feelings and emotions of forgiveness often come after we choose to forgive.

- **Keeping a Record of Wrongs**—It's probably not true forgiveness if you keep reminding the person how much you've forgiven them and if you keep reenacting the hurt again and gain. Release them and release the pain to God. He sees you and he will take care of you.

For those of us who follow Jesus, God's forgiveness is the central blessing of our lives. It's the reason we sing and pray and love and have favor and blessing. We are called to be people of forgiveness—out of loyalty to the Kingdom of God and as an act of worship of Jesus, our King.

Next time someone emotionally vomits all over you, remember that we practice forgiveness within the arms of our loving Father. So if you are struggling to forgive, go back to his unending pool of forgiveness. Ask Him to fill you up, so that you can overflow with forgiveness to others.

Pray the very words that He has given us to pray, "God forgive us, as we forgive others."

Aubrey Sampson - Aubrey Sampson is the author of *The Louder Song: Listening for Hope in the Midst of Lament* (NavPress/Tyndale, 2015) and *Overcomer: Breaking Down the Walls of Shame and Rebuilding Your Soul* (Zondervan, 2015). She and her husband and three sons are church planters in the Chicago area, where Aubrey serves on the preaching team and leads discipleship and equipping. As a writer and speaker, Aubrey offers incredible perspective in the midst of trying experiences. She is also a regular contributor to *Propel Women* and is part of the *Propel Cohort* at Wheaton College. Find and follow Aubrey @aubsamp and [www.aubreysampson.com](http://www.aubreysampson.com).

## God's Road Map

- by Dr. Lester Sumrall

The Bible is not just for us to pick up casually and read as a casual thing.

Instead, the Bible is God's textbook, and it is placed on this earth to guide us from here to the pearly gates.

It is God's road map, telling us to go in a particular direction so we'll make it safely home. You can't destroy the Bible. You can't kill the Bible.

Empires have risen for thousands of years and opposed God's Book, but they can't destroy this volume. Look at Hitler. He attempted to destroy it but now he's gone. Look at Stalin. He hated the Bible but now he's dead and in hell.

An atheist in France said that in a hundred years there wouldn't be a single Bible in his nation, but I visited his house, which is now owned by the British Foreign Society, and from the basement to the attic it is loaded with Bibles!

God has a way of mocking man when he comes against his Word!

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### Good Cake

2 cups flour	1 cup chopped nuts
2 cups sugar	1 lg can crushed pineapple, undrained
2 tsp soda	2 eggs
1 tsp vanilla	
1 tbsp vegetable oil	

Combine all ingredients. Bake in a 9 x13 pan that has been greased at 350 degrees until toothpick comes out clean when inserted in the center – about 30 minutes. Cool and frost.

### Good Cake Frosting

1 8 oz pkg cream cheese	1 tsp vanilla
1 stick margarine, softened	2 cups powdered sugar

Cream margarine and cream cheese. Add powdered sugar and vanilla. Blend until fluffy.

Kings went to war in the spring.

2 Samuel 11:1

Children have angels in heaven who always have an audience with God, so pick on someone your own size.

Matthew 18:10

While David was hiding from Saul, a priest gave him Goliath's sword that had been saved for some reason. It came in handy because David left his at home.

1 Samuel 21:9

Paul was from the tribe of Benjamin.

Romans 11:1

The early church had a list of needy widows, but you had to be over 60, a faithful wife (when you were a wife) and known for good deeds.

1 Timothy 5:9

It was God who hardened Pharaoh's heart so that generation after generation of Israelites would really know that He was the Lord.

Exodus 10:1

The saints get to judge the angels.

1 Corinthians 6:3

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### Fun Facts About the Bible You Never Knew

by Robyn Martins

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Lord,

There are countless things in my life

That are inexcusable.

There are things unaccountable

And things unexplainable.

There are things irrefutable

And things irresponsible.

But it comes to me with unutterable relief

That because of your amazing love

Nothing in my life is unforgivable.

Ruth Harms Calkin (copyright 1979)

## Songs We Love

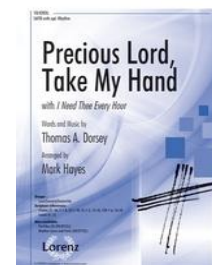
Hi, ladies, happy summer! I remember many songs from my childhood, this one especially for no other reason than I can still hear my Aunt Betty singing it. I just got back from visiting a friend who is grieving the loss of her husband, so this song just seemed perfect when I started digging into the song and discovered the story behind it. It took on a whole new meaning for me. In 1921 at the National Baptist convention in Chicago, Thomas Andrew Dorsey was converted. Don't confuse him with big band leader Tommy Dorsey - not the same person. Thomas was the son of a black revivalist preacher growing up in a small town in Georgia, and at the age of 11 moved to Atlanta with his family. In 1932 he was a married man, and with his wife, Nettie lived in a small apartment on the southside of Chicago. Thomas had been writing gospel songs, trying to get them published, but was very discouraged at first. Gradually his reputation grew, and he started to get noticed because of his songs. Headed to St. Louis to be a featured soloist at a large Revival meeting, he was hesitant to leave his wife in the last month of her pregnancy. Many people were expecting him in St. Louis, so he kissed his wife goodbye, got in his Model A automobile and headed to his meeting. Just outside the city, Thomas realized he forgot his music case, turned the car around and headed home. Thomas found his wife asleep peacefully and hesitated at her bedside, feeling strongly he should stay home. He shrugged off the feeling, and quietly slipped out of the room, and went on to the Revival. The next night in St. Louis after singing again and again, he finally sat down when he received a message that said, "Oh, your wife just died!" He got back home to find that his wife had given birth to a baby boy. But sometime that evening he also died. He buried Nettie and the baby together in the same casket. Then, with every right, fell apart! Feeling God had done him an injustice, he didn't want to serve Him anymore. Sad and alone he kept thinking, if only he'd have stayed that night. Was that something God was telling him, that he should have paid more attention to Him. Quiet and lost in his grief, Thomas had to listen more closely to God. Something began to happen, feeling at peace, he sat down at the piano and the words and the melody just seemed to flow and fall into place. "Precious Lord take my hand. Lead me on, let me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand

precious Lord, lead me home." The Lord gave him these words, and the melody, and healed his broken spirit. Thomas discovered in his deepest grief, when he felt the farthest from God, that that's when he was the closest. Willing and joyfully Thomas went on living for God, writing hundreds of gospel songs, and today he is remembered as the father of gospel music. Let me encourage you no matter how strong the storm in your life, grab hold of God's hand and say lead me on! He has a reason for allowing things to happen in our lives. We may not understand; we just simply have to trust.

Peggy Somosko

### Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand,  
Lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light:  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.



When my way grows drear, precious Lord linger near,  
When my life is almost gone,  
Hear my cry, hear my call,  
Hold my hand lest I fall:  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears, and the night draws near,  
And the day is past and gone,  
At the river I stand,  
Guide my feet, hold my hand:  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

Precious Lord, take my hand,  
Lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light:  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

A 1st grade schoolteacher had twenty-six students in her class. She presented each child in her classroom the 1st half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by first graders.

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| 1.  | Don't change horses                                | until they stop running.       |
| 2.  | Strike while the                                   | bug is close.                  |
| 3.  | It's always darkest before                         | Daylight Savings Time.         |
| 4.  | Never underestimate the power of                   | termites.                      |
| 5.  | You can lead a horse to water but                  | how?                           |
| 6.  | Don't bite the hand that                           | looks dirty.                   |
| 7.  | No news is   | impossible                     |
| 8.  | A miss is as good as a                             | Mr.                            |
| 9.  | You can't teach an old dog new                     | math.                          |
| 10. | If you lie down with dogs, you'll                  | stink in the morning.          |
| 11. | Love all, trust                                    | me.                            |
| 12. | The pen is mightier than the                       | pigs.                          |
| 13. | An idle mind is                                    | the best way to relax.         |
| 14. | Where there's smoke there's                        | pollution.                     |
| 15. | Happy the bride who                                | gets all the presents.         |
| 16. | A penny saved is                                   | not much.                      |
| 17. | Two's company, three's                             | the Musketeers.                |
| 18. | Don't put off till tomorrow what                   | you put on to go to bed.       |
| 19. | Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and | you have to blow you nose.     |
| 20. | There are none so blind as                         | Stevie Wonder                  |
| 21. | Children should be seen and not                    | spanked or grounded.           |
| 22. | If at first you don't succeed                      | get new batteries.             |
| 23. | You get out of something only what you             | see in the picture on the box. |
| 24. | When the blind lead the blind                      | get out of the way.            |
| 25. | A bird in the hand                                 | is going to poop on you.       |
|     | And the winner and last one!                       |                                |
| 26. | Better late than                                   | pregnant.                      |

Submitted by Dianna Davis



## What are Angels?

Angels are spiritual beings created by God to serve Him. They are very powerful beings who function as God's messengers. Many times in the Bible they appeared to people and said, "I have come as a messenger from the Lord."

The New Testament tells us they are also ministering spirits sent to look after human beings who are the heirs of salvation. Jesus seemed to indicate that little children have angels assigned to them, for He said their angels always behold the face of God. So, the concept of guardian angels has its basis in the Bible.

In addition to the worker angels, there are archangels- angel princes such as Michael. Scripture seems to indicate that he represented an entire nation.

Although we do not know for sure what angels look like, the Bible mentions some angelic features. The first chapter of Ezekiel tells of a vision in which the prophet saw a group of angels who were so holy that they appeared as flames of fire. These creatures seemed to be like men, yet they had four wings and multiple faces. They responded instantly to God's Spirit. The book of Isaiah mentions angels called "seraphim" who have six wings. Another group of angels is called "cherubim." Seemingly, cherubim were present to cover the very holiness of God Himself, and on the lid of the ark of the covenant their wings formed the throne for the presence of the Lord.

Angels are magnificent creatures, not at all like the tiny, childlike cherubs that we see in some Renaissance art. Their power is so great that just one angel was able to destroy 185,000 Assyrian soldiers in one night. Their presence is so awesome that those who see them have been known to fall unconscious on the ground or to voluntarily prostrate themselves.

Answers To 200 Of Life's Most Probing Questions  
Pat Robertson

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Talking is Sharing  
Listening is Caring

## Sherry's Book Corner/Children

Hi kids! This is a book for summer fun and learning! Since we love birds, I found this book very interesting! The colorful illustrations bring to life these busy creatures in which God created for us to enjoy! The information shared would be a big help when you go back to school if you need material to write a book report about birds or nature in general. Also, this book has a neat feature located in the back. It is called Explore More. Explore More covers the facts about each bird written about. The author explains about each bird. Their habitat, feet, and beak. The bird that inspired this book is called the Red-bellied Woodpecker.

To be honest with you, I love this book! So full of fun facts to know about the birds in which we feed here at home. Of course, we don't get to feed a roadrunner because they live out west! If you don't feed the birds now, maybe after you read this book, you'll have an interest to do so! Birds are a lot of fun to watch. And to hear. The author wants to spark your curiosity about the diversity of life on our planet. She hopes you will become an avid explorer and nature lover. So do I!

Until next time, get outside and explore the world around you!

In Him,  
Sherry Kline Bolitho

Children's Book:

Title: Paddle Perch Climb

Bird Feet Are Neat

Written and Illustrated by: Laurie Ellen Angus

Publisher: Dawn Publications

Price: Not listed

Laurie Ellen Angus lives alongside a creek. It is surrounded by woods. Her backyard is a playground for many wild creatures. You will learn how birds eat and survive in the wild. More books are listed in the back about nature appreciation. A Moon of My Own, Wonderful Nature, Wonderful You, and There's a Bug on My Book are just to name a few.

## Sherry's Book Corner/Adult

Hello ladies! It is hard to believe we are heading towards summer, but we are! As I write this to you, I also glance out my slider door from time to time. You may ask, why are you are not outside on your deck? Because... Randy is putting new stain on the floor and banister. Now, back to my view. It is our backyard. The grass is green and so are the trees surrounding our property. My laundry is softly blowing in the breeze as is the American flag that stands tall in remembrance of Kyle. Our birds which we feed daily are also a joy to watch as well as hear. Our yard is a peaceful setting and I wanted to share that with you.

The cover of this book reminded me of my childhood. Not the story, but the cover. Patty and I. We looked just like these two little girls when we were young. Her being the eldest only by four years. I was intrigued and my attention was caught. Since most of us like to have a book to read at all times, you will not want to pass up this story. Susan Meissner who wrote, Secrets of a Charmed Life made this comment. "An unforgettable read... This captivating novel will quite likely break your heart, but because it's Lisa Wingate at the helm, you will not be left broken. She is a master storyteller and never fails to get to the heart of what makes us hold on to hope."

Until next time, get out and enjoy the breezes of summer!

In Him,  
Sherry Kline Bolitho

Adult Book:

Title: Before We Were Yours

Author: Lisa Wingate

Publisher: Ballantine Books

Price: \$26.00

The story is based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals. It takes place in Memphis in 1939. Children are kidnapped and sold to wealthy families all over the country. The place was called the Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage.

The family of our story lived on a shanty boat on the Mississippi River. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live with their mom and dad on this magical boat. But not for long. As they face a life of fear, hope enters the heart and makes a new home in each one. Can this hope be shared with others?

### **3 Ways to Pray in the Face of Tragedy**

My son called on an early morning in June to tell us he and his wife—in labor with their first child—were blocked from entering the hospital zone because of some huge disaster down the street. The huge event was the mass shooting at a nightclub. A security guard had killed 49 people and wounded 53 others at the popular gay club on Latin night.

... the anger and fear laid a blanket of heaviness on the city. The grief was palpable.

Soon afterward, a group of 60 or so Christ followers gathered to comfort each other and to pray. It seemed the right response. But where do you begin to pray in light of such atrocity?

#### **Begin With Lament**

Like David the psalmist, we began with lament.

In Psalm 80, David faces attacks on all sides. He has no resources to confront his enemies. He cries out to the Lord, “O Lord God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people? Thou feedest them with the bread of tears; and givest them tears to drink in great measure. (Psalm 80:4-5)

David was confident God would hear and receive his cries of lament and come to his aid. We, too, are invited to pour out our lament to Him. Our God is not threatened or offended or even angered at our lament. He waits for our petitions.

... Sometimes our lament is very personal and close to our hearts.

A close friend just lost his mother in a violent auto crash. His pain is devastating, his lament filled with tears.

Another friend, a single grandmother rearing her grandchildren, lost her job. How will she support these kids? She cried out in fear.

Not long ago my son awakened to find his roommate hanging from the loft above. He had taken his own life. My son still tears up at the mention of it.

David’s words express our lament: “How long, O Lord?”

#### **Acknowledge God**

Then David leads us to a right response: “Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.” (Psalm 80:7)

I am most helped to make my way to such a prayer of hope and restoration by stopping to acknowledge what I know about this God.

Zecharia did that for years, then got his answer straight from an angel: “Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard...” (Luke 1:13)

This message assured Zacharias he had nothing to fear—and that his decades of prayer for a child had not fallen on deaf ears. God had heard. And now was the right time for God’s answer. His son, John the Baptist, would prepare the way for the coming Christ.

What else can I know about this God? These few of many truths help to turn my lament to trust:

Psalm 34:18: “The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.”

Deuteronomy 31:8: “And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.”

Hebrews 4:16: “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”

#### **Give Thanks**

What happens in my heart and my mind? I grasp that He knows, He cares, He is able. I believe what He says. I begin to trust that, even if the grief remains, if I don’t see immediate change or relief, God is at work, accomplishing His good purposes. I fall to my knees, even on my face, crying, “Thank You, Lord.”

Just as David did: “I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.” (Ps. 86:12).

Judy Douglass is a writer, speaker, encourager and advocate. She partners with her husband, Steve, to lead Cru globally, is the author of five books and speaks around the world. Judy writes at [www.judydouglass.com](http://www.judydouglass.com). You can find her on Facebook and follow her on Twitter and Instagram @jeedoo417.

## Integrity

When I was young, I babysat for some neighborhood kids but got my first real job when I was 13. This was the early 1960's. My mom was a manager at a restaurant and the owner also owned another restaurant just across the street. That was where I started working. They needed kitchen help during the summer and weekends. It was the type of restaurant that had a small dining room and curbside service outside. When I was 14, I started working as a waitress. I worked from 7:30 pm to 4 am, made \$.55 per hour and got to keep all my tips. This was when the average tip was a quarter. I still worked week ends, whenever school was out and summers. On a busy weekend night, I must have walked about 10 miles, but I would make between \$60 and \$80 dollars. Not bad money at the time. We had to wear a uniform of black slacks, black tip apron, a white blouse, white canvas tennis shoes, and a white scarf on our heads. Those little triangle shaped scarves that tied either behind your neck or under your chin worked best. This was before the day of plastic, so all sales were cash only. We had to start each shift with \$5 in bills and change to be able to collect the money for the food we served at the time we delivered it to their car and give them their change. When I first started, we had the old trays with a slide bar on the bottom, but later newer trays came out that had rubber covered hooks that fit over the slightly raised window. People liked those so much better.

In hindsight, working there during that time was a great time of training for the future me. I was always pretty shy but having to talk to people of so many different backgrounds, I learned I could hold my own. Since we closed at the early morning hour of 4 am, we caught all the people leaving the bars at closing time and served them breakfast before they went home. I learned to be diplomatic from handling those not quite themselves. I learned to be detail oriented from taking an order and making sure it was filled correctly. I learned to handle money. Because of the flexible hours, I worked there until I was in college. In the late 60's the times were very stress filled. There was civil unrest and race riots. We had curfews and had to be off the streets by 6 pm. The street where I worked had barricades and was manned by armed national guardsmen. It was a fearful time. I learned that not all people were tolerant of people different from themselves. I learned patience. I learned that I could be a responsible lead person on

the job, that I liked being able to take pride in a job well done. Here's where I began the work ethic I still have today – to strive to do a job right the first time and to the best of my ability, and loyalty. This is a work ethic I later taught to my son.

I have been thinking about those early days in my work history lately. It's because I have been getting takeout more often and people keep messing up my order. When I look at the receipt, they took the order correctly but just packed the food up wrong. I have been trying to eat healthy and make good food choices and eat before 7 pm. My work schedule keeps me from having time to get home early enough to do that most days, so I pick up something on my way home. I don't know if it's because I am stopping more often or because people are just in too much of a hurry to do things right, but it seems that my order being wrong happens way too often.

Every person has a job to do. How we do it says a lot about us. Do we act like it matters how accurate we are, or do we take an "oh, well better luck next time" attitude? As Christians we should always do our very best. It doesn't matter if you are a janitor, a salesperson, a waitress, or a CEO of a big company, you should always strive for excellence in everything you do, and that includes your job. We should work as though God was our employer for, we, every one of us does work for God ultimately. What kind of employee are you? Would the person you work beside of know you are a child of God? Does your work ethic reflect a higher level of honesty, dedication, fairness, and excellence than the non-Christian you work beside of? Our actions and behavior are an unspoken testimony of our faith. It's what the world sees as a reflection not just on you but on God as well. You shouldn't put up Christian items in your work area and then act like you don't know Him. Be a shining example to all those around you of what it means to be Christian, not just in the workplace but everywhere you go.

LeuAnna Taylor

*Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*

I Corinthians 10:31

*Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.*

I Corinthians 3:13



