

Today's Bible Verses

19 NOVEMBER 2018

Today's 4 verses, read in order, tell of an encounter with the Pharisees Jesus had near the time of His death.

a "The disciples [of Jesus] began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles they had seen:"

Luke 19:37 (1 of 4 for Nov 19)

b "The King who comes in the name of the Lord is the blessed One. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven!"

Luke 19:38 (2 of 4 for Nov 19)

c "Some of the Pharisees from the crowd told Him, 'Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.'"

Luke 19:39 (3 of 4 for Nov 19)

d "[Jesus] answered, 'I tell you, if they were to keep silent, the stones would cry out!'"

Luke 19:40 (4 of 4 for Nov 19)

(ALL VERSES ARE EXCERPTED FROM THE HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE, HCSB.)

The Bible verses in the box above are this day's verses which I selected for my daily posting on both [FACEBOOK](#) and [TWITTER](#).

SEE ALSO:

ChristOurPassover.org

ADDITIONAL VERSES:

A Special Issue, Honoring

Dr. Kyle Yates

(SEE BELOW)

HANDEL'S
Messiah

Welcome to this “*Additional Verses*” Bible study of the text of Handel’s choral masterpiece, *Messiah*.
 At the end of his 259-page manuscript of the work, Handel wrote the letters “SDG” — Soli Deo Gloria, “To God alone the glory.”
 Let us approach the inspired words and glorious music with this same devotion.

PART THREE

PART 5d Resurrection and Triumphal Return

HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE

52. Air Soprano or alto
 If God be for us, who can be against us?
 Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth, who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us.

What then are we to say about these things?
If God is for us, who is against us?
 He did not even spare His own Son but offered Him up for us all; how will He not also with Him grant us everything?
Who can bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the One who justifies. Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the One who died, but even more, has been raised; He also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us.
 Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: Because of You we are being put to death all day long; we are counted as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things ***we are more than victorious*** through Him who loved us.
 For I am persuaded that not even death or life, angels or rulers, things present or things to come, hostile powers, height or depth, or any other created thing will have the power to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord!
 ROMANS 8:31-39

What, then, are we to say about these things?
 Paul answers his own question by giving a list of questions and answers that go to the very heart of the Christian truths.
 The ultimate question may be, as Paul asks: “*If God is for us, who can be against us?*” That rather says it all, don't you think?
 For this aria, Jennens and Handel combined several of Paul's most worthy and profound comments about God our Father, Jesus the Christ, and what all of it means for each of us.
 The love of God is irresistible.
 The power of God renders His enemies defenseless.
 The grace of God nullifies any earthly condemnation.
 The answer is clearly “no one at all,” but Paul feels the need to ask yet another question, “*Who can separate us from the love of Christ?*” And what follows is one of the most all-inclusive, profound, hope-giving passages of the entire Bible. You know it, perhaps by heart. Paul tells us that he is “persuaded that not even death or life, angels or

rulers, things present or things to come, hostile powers, height or depth, or any other created thing will have the power to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord!"

What an amazing, definitive summary! Paul's writing here is blissfully full of superlatives!

DR. KYLE M. YATES

Let me include one other, more personal note about this passage from Romans 8. I had a first cousin, unfortunately now deceased, who married a beautiful young pharmacist named Judy. Though "grafted in" to our family only by marriage, she is such a bright and shining light that we adore and love her, and we are thrilled that she is one of our family! She once told me that she had an uncle who had been a professor at Baylor University (my wife Adrienne's Alma Mater). I had just been to Baylor for a Homecoming visit for Adrienne, and I had really fallen in love with the university, the campus, and the city of Waco.



So I did some research on Judy's uncle, and I found out that this mammoth man of God had been one of this nation's greatest Christian preachers, scholars, authors, and teacher/ professors. His expertise in Hebrew and the Old Testament led him to be selected as one of the elite group of translators who gave us the Revised Standard Version of the Bible! **Dr. Kyle Yates** (see photo), who had been born in

tiny Apex, North Carolina, rose to great heights in the teaching of God and the Bible. I was so moved by his career and his sensitive, loving, humble character that I wrote a brief biographical monograph about him as a gift for Judy and for any others who want to know about him. *I've told you all of that to say this:* His favorite single word in the Bible (perhaps aside from "God" and "Jesus") may well have been the Greek word "*hypernikomen*." It is formed from "hyper" which means "more than" or "greater than" and "nike" which means "victor" or "the one who is victorious." And the one and only time it is used in the Bible is right here in Romans 8:

*"In all these things **we are more than victorious** through Him who loved us."* [verse 37]

We **are** "more than victorious," and that truth greatly inspired Dr. Yates (and, through him, his congregations and his students) throughout the years of his career. The word *hypernikomen* is even engraved on his tombstone.

If you would like to read more about Dr. Yates and his great works for our Lord, [CLICK HERE](#).



INFORMATION ON THIS STUDY

One of the most powerful, beautiful, sublime, and Biblically correct works of art is *Messiah* by German-turned-English composer George Friedrich Handel. Composed in a 24-day burst of inspiration in 1741, *Messiah* has become one of the most popular of “classical” music’s religious expressions.

Handel’s friend Charles Jennens, a wealthy landowner and devout Anglican, created the text for *Messiah*

directly from Scripture. *Messiah* is therefore a rich (and richly Biblical) digest of the life, ministry, death, and future kingdom of Jesus the Christ. In this series of “Additional Verses,” we will read (and, if you like, listen to) the original text of Handel’s work – **AND** we will mirror them with an expanded, context-laden study of the Scriptures surrounding those Jennens chose and Handel set to music.

We will work our way through the entire text of *Messiah*, day by day. You will find each day’s excerpt from Handel’s libretto in the left column, and the expanded (but wholly Biblical) context for each of the musical numbers in the right column. (See *above*.) In addition to the Scripture in the right column, **I will add periodic notes and thought questions, which you will always find in this burgundy color.** (I was taught by a truly great man and mentor of mine that true learning and understanding happens best when you are asked the “next question,” so that’s what I will endeavor to do for you.)

I have designed it so that either column can be read straight down, in order to get the narrative (left column for Handel’s message in his music; right column to see that message in magnified Biblical context). I have also put each musical number in its own row, so you may read across the columns for each selection to compare the Handel/Jennens text with the HCSB translation with context.

I have added a special bonus to this series: If you should wish to *listen* to a scintillating performance of the musical number in each day’s section of Handel’s *Messiah*, there are links in the left column you can use to take you there! I would listen, if I were you. (There is more information on the audio files and *Messiah* below.)

At the end of his 259-page manuscript of *Messiah*, Handel wrote the letters “SDG” — *Soli Deo Gloria*, “To God alone the glory.” Let us approach the inspired words and glorious music with this same devotion.

*Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become
the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ;
and He shall reign for ever and ever.
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.
Hallelujah!*



ADDITIONAL NOTES ON HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Charles Jennens (right) pulled together the OT and NT passages that became the “little book” (Italian: *Libretto*) for his friend, composer **George Friedrich Handel** (left) to use in his massive choral work, *Messiah*.



The libretto compiled by Jennens comprises passages from the Authorized (King James) Version of the Bible and Psalms from the Anglican *Book of Common Prayer* (which come from the poetic 1535 Miles Coverdale translation).

For performance purposes, Handel divided the work into three sections, but to suit our study here, I have chosen to break it up into these five:

1. Messianic Prophecies
2. Birth of Messiah
3. Ministry of Messiah
4. Death of Messiah
5. Resurrection and Triumphal Return

As Christians, we share a belief in the inspiration of Scripture, and so a study of these “Additional Verses” makes perfect sense, I believe, in the context of these daily emails. However, we have the added bonus in this case of the gloriously and sublimely beautiful music associated with our study. Handel’s *Messiah* sits among my top five or so favorite musical works – ever. I have attended many live performances of it (notably in Duke Chapel in Durham, NC), and I own and listen to multiple versions of it in my vinyl and CD collections.

I never even come close to tiring of the work, and am always lifted up in both lyrical and spiritual realms by it. If you are not familiar with it (except maybe for the universally loved “Hallelujah” Chorus), then do yourself a favor and listen to it. If you already know and love it, listen to the recording I’ve linked to in this study.

(The links are found in the left column, in the description of each selection. Just click, and it will open your browser, take you to YouTube, and play that selection. I absolutely encourage you to use good quality headphones!)

As a result of the generosity of its publisher who made the recording available online, we have the opportunity to marry our study of the text with one of the greatest, truly classic recordings of *Messiah* of all time. (There is complete information about this recording in the Credits section, at the bottom of this email.)

I would welcome any comments or questions you may have about this (admittedly unusual) form of Bible study. Thank you!

USAGE OF THE NAME OF GOD IN THESE STUDIES

As I do in all my Daily and Additional Verses, whenever an OT passage contains the four-letter Name of God יהוה (transliteration: YHVH or YHWH), I change the translation from The LORD to Yahweh.

I don’t do this for reasons of doctrine (*or because I think my prayers won’t be heard if I don’t pronounce God’s name correctly!*) – but simply because in the original Hebrew, **the word is a proper name**. (See Exodus 3:15 below.)

And as such, I believe to read the text in a way that uses a proper name (and not a title, like Lord) conveys more accurate information. Paul told us that “All Scripture is inspired by God,” and so why wouldn’t we want to read it the way He inspired it? While it is true that the correct pronunciation of YHWH has been lost, “Yahweh” is probably our era’s most commonly used equivalent.

God also said to Moses, “Say this to the Israelites: Yahweh, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever; this is how I am to be remembered in every generation.”
[Exodus 3:15]

*All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable
for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness,
so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 (HCSB)

The additional verses which are below the Daily Verses will only appear in these emails (which are also posted on some websites). The current series (begun 31 October 2018) of these “Additional Verses” takes the Scriptural words from the great choral work *Messiah* by Handel and uses them as a springboard to examine the context of the birth, ministry, character, death, and Kingdom of Jesus the Christ.

If you know of others who would like to receive these Daily Verses emails – free of charge, of course – just have them send me their email address. I will never allow anyone but me to see or to use the email addresses entrusted to me, and I will use them only for the purpose of these Daily Verses. Promise.

–GBP2

How Did All of This Get Started?

In early 2017, I wrote a computer app that “knows” all 66 books and 1189 chapters which the Bible comprises. When run, it selects a totally random chapter in the Bible, and keeps track of the ones that have been selected. That way, I can work my way through all 1189 chapters, without the app ever giving me a duplicate.

I first used this for Bible study, and later decided that choosing one or more verses from each chapter would make a good series of Facebook posts.

I began posting them on December 8, 2017, and have been doing it daily ever since. I later added them to my Twitter account, and am now sending them by email, for those who prefer to get them this way.

TO UNSUBSCRIBE:

If you do not wish to receive these daily emails, please feel free any time to hit “Reply” and tell me. I know that mailbox clutter is greatly annoying, and that is certainly not my intention for this!



Research for this publication was assisted by Faithlife Corporation's [Logos Bible Software 7](#).

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are taken from the [Holman Christian Standard Bible \(HCSB\)](#). Copyright © 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2009 by Holman Bible Publishers.

CREDITS:

Portrait of G.F. Handel: attrib. Balthasar Denner (1685-1749); National Portrait Gallery, London (75 x 63 cm).

Portrait of Chas. Jennens: Thomas Hudson (1701-1779); Handel & Hendrix, London (122 x 98 cm).

Messiah: An Oratorio: Handel's autograph manuscript of the title page of Messiah, 1741.

Handel: Messiah (recording): L'Oiseau-Lyre (Decca) edition (1991), provided to YouTube by Universal Music Group North America. Judith Nelson, Emma Kirkby, Carolyn Watkinson, Paul Elliott, David Thomas; Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford; The Academy of Ancient Music, Christopher Hogwood, director.