

## **Jeremiah 8:18-9:1**

<sup>18</sup>My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. <sup>19</sup>Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?" ("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?") <sup>20</sup>"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." <sup>21</sup>For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me. <sup>22</sup>Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

**9**O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

## Psalm 79

<sup>1</sup>O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.

<sup>2</sup>They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth.

<sup>3</sup>They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.

<sup>4</sup>We have become a taunt to our neighbors, mocked and derided by those around us.

<sup>5</sup>How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire?

<sup>6</sup>Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call on your name.

<sup>7</sup>For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation.

<sup>8</sup>Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low.

<sup>9</sup>Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.

<sup>10</sup>Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" Let the avenging of the outpoured blood of your servants be known among the nations before our eyes.

<sup>11</sup>Let the groans of the prisoners come before you; according to your great power preserve those doomed to die.

<sup>12</sup>Return sevenfold into the bosom of our neighbors the taunts with which they taunted you, O Lord!<sup>13</sup>Then we your people, the flock of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise.

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## **1 Timothy 2:1-7**

**2**First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

## **Luke 16:1-13**

**16** Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' <sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup>He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. <sup>10</sup>"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."