

For the Persecuted Believers

The Lord has exalted His Name and His Word above all things. He delights to hear His own Word spoken back to Him in prayer. Use the verses included as a prompt for your own prayers. The prayers interspersed in *blue italics* are merely examples.

Daily

Heb 13:3 **Remember** those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. *Father, I pray for those believers who are persecuted, tortured, and those in prison, suffering because of righteousness. I pray that You would put an end to their imprisonment and suffering and restore them to their home and family. Lord, I ask You to give me the passion to pray for the persecuted saints as I would pray for myself or my own family if they were persecuted and suffering.*

I pray for those who persecute Your saints, that You would reveal to them their lost estate and final destiny, and reveal Christ to their hearts and save their eternal souls. I know that what You did for Paul when You saved him from being a persecutor of the believers to a believer himself, You can also do for them.

Psa 79:11 May the groans of the prisoners come before You; by the strength of Your arm preserve those condemned to die. *Lord, I thank You that the prayers of the prisoners (and the persecuted, and the suffering) do come immediately before You. By the strength of Your arm may You preserve, protect, prosper, and release them.*

Rom 13:1 The authorities that exist have been established by God. 4 For he is God's servant **to do you good**. *Father, I pray for those who are in authority and who are directly or indirectly responsible for the persecution of the believers in their country. If they will not perform the function for which You have appointed them (to do them good), I pray that You would call them to account for the way they have mishandled their position, convict them and give them the opportunity to repent. If they still will not, I ask You to replace them with someone who will do Your people good.*

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Lord's day

Rom 14:4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And **he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.** *Lord, I pray that You would cause every persecuted believer to **stand firm** in their faith, regardless of the severity of their torture and persecution.*

Isa 7:9 If you do not **stand firm in your faith**, you will not stand at all. *Lord, I pray that You would enable the persecuted believers to **stand firm in the faith.*** "For the Lord is able to make him stand."

Lu 22:32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, **that your faith may not fail.** *Lord, I also pray that their faith may not fail, regardless of the persecution and torture they may face.*

Eph 6:14 **Stand firm** then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place.

"It is better to believe our beliefs and doubt our doubts that it is to doubt our beliefs and believe our doubts." *Lord, I ask You to cause them to always believe You and Your Word, and never doubt, regardless of the persecution and suffering they are experiencing.*

"Never doubt in the darkness what God has revealed in the light." *Lord, I pray that You would strengthen their faith so that they would not doubt what You have revealed to them in the light.*

Jn 15:18 "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first. 19 If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why **the world hates you.** 20 Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed My teaching, they will obey yours also. 21 **They will treat you this way because of My Name**, for they do not know the One who sent Me.

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Lord, the world hates You and those who belong to You, and they persecute the believers because they don't know You. They are lost and dead in their transgressions and sins. I pray that You would reveal to them their lost estate and save their eternal souls.

Monday

Col 3:15 Let the **peace** of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. *Father, I pray that inspite of their suffering that You would cause the **peace** of Christ to rule in their hearts, and that You would give them a thankful heart.*

Isa 26:3 **Thou** wilt keep him in **perfect peace**, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. *Father, I ask You to keep our persecuted brothers and sisters in **perfect peace**. May their minds be stayed on Thee, and may they always trust in You.*

There's a peace in my heart that the world never gave,
A peace it cannot take away;

Tho' the trials of life may surround like a cloud,
I've a peace that has come there to stay!

Author: Anne S. Murphy

May You cause them to experience Your perfect peace: a peace that the world can't give and a peace that the world can't take away.

Jn 14:27 Peace I leave with you; My **peace** I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. *Father, thank you for the peace that You give to those who belong to You. It is not at all like the peace the world gives. May You keep their hearts un-troubled and free from fear.*

Hymns of Worship and Remembrance #286

Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?

The blood of Jesus whispers **peace** within.

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Matt 10:28 **Do not be afraid of those who kill the body** but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. *Lord, I pray that they would have no fear of those who might kill the body but have no ability to kill the soul. May their reverential trust be focused on You alone.*

2 Thess 3:2 **Pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men**, for not everyone has faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. *Father, if it is Your perfect will, may You deliver them from wicked and evil men who have no faith, please protect them from the evil one.*

Tuesday

Psa 32:7 **You are my hiding place**; You will **protect me** from trouble and **surround me** with songs of deliverance. *Father, I thank You that You are the believer's hiding place. I pray that our persecuted brothers and sisters would find in You the perfect hiding place and there You would surround them with songs of deliverance.*

Hymns of Worship and Remembrance #310

From every stormy wind that blows,
From every swelling tide of woes,
There is a **safe, sure hiding place**:
'Tis found before the throne of grace.

Psa 64:2 **Hide me** from the conspiracy of the wicked, from that noisy crowd of evildoers. *Lord I ask You to hide Your loved ones from the conspiracy of the wicked, from the noisy crowd of evildoers.*

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*O **safe** to the Rock that is higher than I,
My soul in its conflicts and sorrows would fly;
So sinful, so weary, Thine, Thine, would I be;
Thou blest "Rock of Ages," I'm **hiding in Thee**.*

Refrain

***Hiding in Thee**, abiding in Thee,
Thou blest "Rock of Ages,"
I'm abiding in Thee.*

Author: W.O. Cushing

Father, I pray that You would hide every believer in Yourself and they would find there the perfect hiding and abiding place.

Psa 27:5 In the time of trouble He will **keep me them** safe in His dwelling. He will **hide them** in the shelter of His tabernacle and **set me them** high upon a ~~rock~~ The **Rock**. *Father, I thank You that You keep them safe in You, their eternal dwelling place. In the meantime may You hide them in the shelter of Your tabernacle and set them high upon the Rock, the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Till the storm passes over, till the thunder sounds no more
Till the clouds roll forever from the sky

Hold me them fast, let me them stand in the hollow of Thy hand
Keep me them safe till the storm passes by.

Author: Mosie Lister

Lord, many of Your saints are experiencing a dreadful storm in their lives. I pray that You would provide a calm in the storm for them, that You would keep them safe until the storm passes by.

Psa 91:4 He **will cover you** with His feathers, and **under His wings you will find refuge**; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. *Father, I thank You that You have provided a much more secure place than under Your wings. There is no more secure place than to be "in Christ". May they experience their security in Him and in His faithfulness.*

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Under His wings I am safely abiding;

Though the night deepens and tempests are wild,
Still I can trust Him - I know He will keep me,
He has redeemed me and I am His child.

Author: W.O. Cushing

May they experience this same trust, may they know that You have redeemed them and they are Your child, no one can pluck them out of Your hand.

2 Cor 4:16 Therefore we **do not lose heart**. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet **inwardly we are being renewed day by day**. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we **fix our eyes not on what is seen**, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. *Lord, please do not allow them to lose heart. I pray that You would renew them physically, emotionally and spiritually day by day. Cause them to fix their eyes upon You, because everything that they can see with their eyes is temporal, but You are eternal. Please encourage their hearts day by day.*

Wednesday

2 Cor 1:21 Now it is God who makes both us and you **stand firm** in Christ. He anointed us, 22 set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. *Lord, we are unable to stand firm in our own strength, only You can make us stand.* Rom 14:4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he **stands** or falls. And he will **stand**, for **the Lord is able to make him stand**. *Lord, may You cause every one of Your persecuted ones to **stand firm** in their faith.*

"Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God. Amen." Martin Luther. *Lord, please enable and empower every one of Your persecuted saints to stand firm regardless of the cost.*

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Rom 4:20 Yet he (Abraham) **did not waver** through unbelief concerning the promise of God, but was **strengthened in his faith** and gave glory to God, 21 being **fully persuaded** that God had power to do what He had promised. 22 This is why it was credited to him as righteousness. *Father, I ask You to do for Your persecuted ones what You did for Abraham. May You keep them from wavering in unbelief, may You strengthen them in their faith, and may they give glory to You. May they be fully persuaded that You have power to do exactly what You have promised.*

Eph 4:14 Then we will **no longer be infants, tossed back and forth** by the waves, and **blown here and there** by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 But (Instead), speaking the truth in love, may they may **grow up into Him** in all things, which is the Head, even Christ. *I pray that they would not be tossed back and forth by the waves, or blown here and there by every wind of teaching or by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, may they always speak the truth in love and grow up into Christ Who is the Head.*

Prov 18:10 The Name of the LORD is a **strong tower**: the **righteous runneth into it, and are safe**. *Lord, Your Name is indeed an incredibly strong tower. Your Name is El Gibbor, God the Mighty One, God the infinitely powerful protector. Those who run to You are eternally safe in Christ. Thank You for being our strong tower.*

Psa 9: 9 The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a **stronghold** in times of trouble.

Hymns of Worship and Remembrance #310

From every stormy wind that blows,

From every swelling tide of woes,

There is a safe, sure hiding place:

'Tis found before the throne of grace.

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1 Pet 2:20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall **take it patiently**? **But if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently**, this is acceptable unto God. 21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps.

Patience: accepting a difficult situation from God without giving Him a deadline to remove it. *Lord, I pray that when Your saints do well and suffer for it, may You enable them to take it patiently, waiting for You to cause everything to work together for good.*

My rest is in heaven, my rest is not here.

Then why should I murmur when trials are near?

Be hushed, my sad spirit, the worst (and the best!) that can come

But shortens my journey, and hastens me home.

Author: H.F. Lyte

Lord, I pray that You would enable our persecuted brothers and sisters to rest in You, and realize that if their persecution results in death, they will be absent from the body and present with You, which is better by far.

Thursday

Luke 22:42 "Father, if You are willing, take this cup from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours be done." 43 An angel from heaven **appeared to Him and strengthened Him**. *Father, if You are willing, if it is Your perfect will, I pray that You would be pleased to take this cup of suffering from them. If not, I pray that You would send an angel from heaven to encourage, strengthen, and protect them.*

Psa 34:7 The Angel of the LORD encamps around (now abides within) those who fear Him, and **He delivers them**. *Father, we are so grateful that the Lord Himself abides within every believer. We thank You that He "gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and*

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Father". Gal 1:4 May You enable them to experience Your hand of deliverance.

Heb 1:14 Are not all angels **ministering spirits** sent to serve those who will inherit salvation? *Father, I thank You that You have assigned Your angels to minister to Your saints. May you enable the suffering saints to see the ministering hand of the angels working on their behalf.*

Rom 15:13 May the God of Hope **fill you with all joy and peace** as you trust in Him, so that you may **overflow with hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit. *God, I thank You that You are the God of hope. May You fill the suffering ones with all joy and hope so that they may overflow with hope by the power of Your Spirit.*

1 Ki 17:3 The Lord's instruction to Elijah: "Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. 4 You will drink from the brook, and **I have ordered the ravens to feed you** there." 6 **The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.** *Lord, You are **Jehovah Rohi**, the Lord Who cares for their daily needs. I pray that just as You provided food for Elijah, that You would also provide the needs of our persecuted brothers and sisters. I pray that they would lack nothing.* Psa 34:9 Fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing.

Psa 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. *Lord, I ask You to prepare a table for our imprisoned and suffering brothers and sisters. I pray that they would be bountifully supplied. You are their Shepherd, may they lack nothing.*

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Friday

Phil 4:6 Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And **the peace of God**, which passeth all understanding, shall keep (guard) your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. *Lord, I pray that You would keep them from being anxious about their situation, but may You enable them to have a thankful spirit. May the peace of God that passes understanding guard their hearts and minds through Jesus Christ.*

Rom 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, **we have peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Thank You Lord that each one that is justified by faith has the peace of God as their possession. May You enable each one to experience the peace of God in their daily experience.*

Jn 14:27 Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. **Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.** *Lord, I thank You for the peace that You give. It is not the pseudo peace like that which the world gives.* The peace of God is that **state** (not a feeling) of true rest and contentment that comes from being in a harmonious relationship with God as a result of being justified by faith, plus nothing. *May this peace, Your peace, keep their hearts from being troubled, and may You keep them from all fear.*

1 Pet 5:10 And the God of all grace, Who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and **make you strong, firm and steadfast.** *Lord, may the suffering ones know in their hearts that You are the God of all grace, and that You have called them to Your eternal glory in Christ, and after they have suffered for a little while, You Yourself will restore them, and make them strong, firm and steadfast.*

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1 Pet 4:14 TLB **Be happy** if you are cursed and insulted for being a Christian, for when that happens **the Spirit of God will come upon you with great glory**. 16 But it is **no shame to suffer** for being a Christian. **Praise God** for the privilege of being in Christ's family and being called by His wonderful Name. *Lord, may You bring this passage of Scripture to their hearts. When they are cursed and insulted, may they experience Your Spirit upon them with great glory. Remind them that it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. May You bring praise upon their hearts for being a believer and being called by that wonderful Name of Christ.*

1 Pet 3:14 But even if you should **suffer** for what is right, **you are blessed**. (Blessed: one whom God makes fully satisfied, not because of favorable circumstances, but because He indwells the believer through Christ.) *Lord, I pray that You would enable every persecuted and suffering one to consider themselves blessed, regardless of what they are going through at this particular time.*

Ex 1:12 But the more they afflicted them (Israel), **the more they multiplied and spread**; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. *Lord, I pray that even in their distress, You would enable them to share the good news of the Gospel. May You cause their faith to spread and to multiply rapidly.*

Saturday

Lord, I ask You to save the soul of every person who persecutes and tortures another human being. It is a terrible crime to torture a human being whom You have created, the work of Your hand.

Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord**, and in the power of His might. 11 **Put on the full armor of God** so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. *Lord, I pray that You would prompt each one of Your persecuted believers to put on Your full armor by appropriating Rom 6:11 and reckoning themselves dead to sin and alive unto You.*

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Jn 16:33 These things have I spoken unto you that **in Me ye might have peace**. In the world ye shall have tribulation, but **be of good cheer**, I have overcome the world. *Lord, these saints are now in the world and experiencing the tribulation of the world, but You have spoken in such a way that they might have peace. May You enable them to be of good cheer because You have overcome the world.*

2 Cor 12:9 But He said to me, "**My grace is sufficient** for you for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's glory may rest on me. 10 That is why for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. *Lord, these suffering and persecuted ones may be experiencing many and severe weaknesses, but may they find Your grace to be gloriously sufficient. May You enable them to boast in their weakness in order that Christ's glory may rest on them. May they delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, and in difficulties, for when they are weak, then they are truly strong in Christ.*

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. *Lord, please grant them the assurance that You cause **all things** to work together for their good, because they love You and belong to You, and are called according to Your purpose.*

Psa 23:1 The LORD is my Shepherd, I **shall not want** (I shall lack nothing). 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I will fear no evil**: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. 5 **Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies**: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. *Lord, I thank You that You are their Shepherd, and that being the case, You do not allow them to lack anything, not even the smallest thing. Even if they are presently walking*

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*through the valley of the shadow of death, may You keep them from every fear, because You are closer than near, You are **abiding within** them. They may be imprisoned in the presence of their enemies, but may You prepare a table for them, just as you prepared a table for Elijah in the desert (1 Sam 17: 5 So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. 6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.) Lord, I know that what you did for Elijah, You can do for these dear ones. May You anoint their head with oil and cause their cup to overflow.*

1Pet 4:16 But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being in Christ's family and being called by His wonderful Name. *Lord, I pray that You would put this truth on the heart of every persecuted saint. May we never consider it a shame to suffer for Christ. It would be a shame to suffer for the world, but never a shame to suffer for Christ. "Whatever we may have to go through now is less than nothing compared to surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:18).*