The Tsunami Blessing: Inside and Out, Part 43

No matter how long it's been or how wrong it's been, as a new creation in Christ Jesus gives you a brand new life. There aren't any more irreconcilable differences between God and you.

Jesus conquered satan once and for all; the defeated foe is eternally broken into irreconcilable pieces. As more than a conqueror help him to retain his title, "the biggest loser." You overcame satan by the blood of the Lamb and the word of your testimony, "I plead the blood of Jesus."

Better understanding Jesus' honorable and humbling sacrifice for you, be resolved that God really does love you just as much as He loves Jesus. You can hold up your head and come courageously and fearlessly to the throne of God like His favorite child. You can present your request already knowing you are accepted in the Beloved. You can expect the answer knowing it is always readily accessible.

The Reunited Life in Christ, No Irreconcilable Differences

Ephesians 2:10 The Voice (VOICE)

¹⁰For we are the product of His hand, *heaven's poetry etched on lives,* created in the Anointed, Jesus, to accomplish the good works God arranged long ago.

Ephesians 2:10 The Message (MSG)

⁷⁻¹⁰ Now God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.

"For because of Him the whole body (the church, in all its various parts),

closely joined and firmly knit together...with which it is supplied, when each part [with power adapted to its need] is working properly [in all its functions], grows to full maturity, building itself up in love". **Ephesians 4:16, Amp**

Romans 6:9-23 The Voice (VOICE)

⁹So we stand firm in the conviction that death holds no power over God's Anointed, because He was resurrected from the dead never to face death again. ¹⁰When He died, He died to whatever power sin had, once and for all, and now He lives completely to God. ¹¹So here is how to picture yourself now that you have been initiated into Jesus the Anointed: you are dead to sin's power and influence, but you are alive to God's rule.

¹²Don't invite *that insufferable tyrant of* sin back into your mortal body so you won't become obedient to its *destructive* desires. ¹³Don't offer your bodily members to sin's service as tools of wickedness; instead, offer your body to God as those who are alive from the dead, and devote the parts of your body to God as tools for justice *and goodness in this world*. ¹⁴For sin is no longer a tyrant over you; indeed you are under grace and not the law.

Now sin and death no longer define us, but grace does: God's favor has been given freely to us through His Son, Jesus, who liberates us from sin's power.

¹⁵ So what do we do now? Throw ourselves into lives of sin because we are cloaked in grace and don't have to answer to the law? Absolutely not! ¹⁶ Doesn't it make sense that if you sign yourself over as a slave, you will have to obey your master? The question *before you is*, *What will be your master*? Will it be sin—which will lead to certain death—or obedience—which will lead to a right *and reconciled* life? ¹⁷ Thank God that your slavery to sin has ended and that *in your new freedom* you pledged your heartfelt obedience to that teaching which was passed on to you. ¹⁸ *The beauty of your new situation is this*: now that you are free from sin, you are free to serve a *different master, God's redeeming* justice.

¹⁹Forgive me for using casual language to compensate for your natural weakness of human understanding. *I want to be perfectly clear*. In the same way you gave your bodily members away as slaves to corrupt and lawless living and found yourselves deeper in your unruly lives, now devote your members as slaves to right *and reconciled* lives so you will find yourselves deeper in holy living. ²⁰ In the days when you lived as slaves to sin, you had no obligation to do the right thing. *In that regard, you were free.* ²¹ But what do you have to show from your former lives besides shame? The outcome of that life is death, *guaranteed.* ²² But now that you have been emancipated from the death grip of sin and are God's slave, you have *a different sort of life,* a growing holiness. The outcome of that life is eternal life. ²³ The payoff for a life of sin is death, but God is offering us a free gift—eternal life through our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, *the Liberating King.*

1 Corinthians 3:16-18 The Voice (VOICE)

¹⁶Don't you understand that together you form a temple to *the living* God and His Spirit lives among you? ¹⁷If someone comes along to *corrupt, vandalize, and* destroy the temple of God, *you can be sure that* God will see to it that he meets destruction because the temple of God is sacred. You, *together,* are His temple.

Psalm 4:6-8 The Message (MSG) ⁶⁷Why is everyone hungry for *more*? "More, more," they say. "More, more." I have God's more-than-enough, More joy in one ordinary day

⁷⁸Than they get in all their shopping sprees. At day's end I'm ready for sound sleep, For you, GOD, have put my life back together.

2 Chronicles 7:14-18 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁴ If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

¹⁵Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

¹⁶For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

¹⁷And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe my statutes and my judgments;

¹⁸Then will I stablish the throne of thy kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man to be ruler in Israel.

The Word on the Assembly Line

God framed the world with His Word, the model we're to match. In Greek, framed means: to complete thoroughly; make perfectly joined together; repair; prepare; restore; mend; adjust; fit; —beyond measure until it's complete and perfect.

Comprehensive

2 Timothy 3:16-17 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁶All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable 1) for doctrine, 2) for reproof, 3) for correction, 4) for instruction in righteousness:

¹⁷That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

"Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful in one way or another showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us", 2 Timothy 3:16-17, The Message.

Categories

Psalm 19:7-14 King James Version (KJV)

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

[®]The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

¹¹Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

¹²Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

¹³Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Competency

Psalm 119:97-100 King James Version (KJV) ⁹⁷O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

⁹⁸Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

James 1:25 The Voice (VOICE)

²⁵ However, it is possible to open your eyes and take in the beautiful, perfect truth found in God's law of liberty *and live by it*. If you pursue that path and actually do what God has commanded, then you will avoid *the many distractions that lead to* an amnesia of all true things and you will be blessed.

2 Corinthians 3:16-18 The Voice (VOICE)

¹⁶ but in the moment when one turns toward the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ By "the Lord" what I mean is the Spirit, and in any heart where the Spirit of the Lord is present, there is liberty. ¹⁸Now all of us, with our faces unveiled, reflect the glory of the Lord as if we are mirrors; and so we are being transformed, *metamorphosed*, into His same image from one radiance of glory to another, just as the Spirit of the Lord accomplishes it.

Change

Romans 12:1-3 The Voice (VOICE)

12 Brothers and sisters, in light of *all I have shared with you about* God's mercies, I urge you to offer your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice *to God*, a sacred offering that brings Him pleasure; this is your reasonable, essential worship. ²Do not allow this world to mold you in its own image. Instead, be transformed *from the inside out* by renewing your mind. As a result, you will be able to discern what God wills and whatever God finds good, pleasing, and complete.

Paul urges those who read and hear his letter to respond to the good news by offering their bodies—eyes, ears, mouths, hands, feet—to God as a "living sacrifice." Paul knows well enough that sacrifices end in death, not life. But the sacrifice of Jesus changes everything. His resurrection steals life from death and makes it possible for those who trust in Him to become a sacrifice and yet live. But how do we live? We do not live as before, wrapping ourselves in the world and its bankrupt values. We live in constant renewal and transformation of our minds.

³Because of the grace allotted to me, I can *respectfully* tell you not to think of yourselves as being more important than you are; devote your minds to sound judgment since God has assigned to each of us a measure of faith.

Psalm 119:104-112 The Message (MSG)

⁹⁷⁻¹⁰⁴Oh, how I love all you've revealed;

I reverently ponder it all the day long.

Your commands give me an edge on my enemies;

they never become obsolete.

I've even become smarter than my teachers

since I've pondered and absorbed your counsel.

I've become wiser than the wise old sages simply by doing what you tell me. I watch my step, avoiding the ditches and ruts of evil so I can spend all my time keeping your Word. I never make detours from the route you laid out; you gave me such good directions. Your words are so choice, so tasty; I prefer them to the best home cooking. With your instruction, I understand life; that's why I hate false propaganda. ¹⁰⁵⁻¹¹² By your words I can see where I'm going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path. I've committed myself and I'll never turn back from living by your righteous order. Everything's falling apart on me, GOD; put me together again with your Word. Festoon me with your finest sayings, GOD; teach me your holy rules. My life is as close as my own hands, but I don't forget what you have revealed. The wicked do their best to throw me off track, but I don't swerve an inch from your course. I inherited your book on living; it's mine foreverwhat a gift! And how happy it makes me! I concentrate on doing exactly what you say— I always have and always will.

Covenant

Psalm 119:7-9 The Voice (VOICE)

⁷With a pure heart, I will give thanks to You when I hear about Your just *and fair* rulings.

^{*}I will live within Your limits;

do not abandon me completely!

Beth

^aHow can a young person remain pure? Only by living according to Your word.

THE FRAMEWORK FOR RESEMBLING GOD'S MASTERPIECE

Your Anticipation: "Use all your skill to put me together; I wait to see your finished product", Psalm 25:21.

"God, my God, I yelled for help and you put me together. God, you pulled me out of the grave, gave me another chance at life when I was down-and-out", Psalm 30:2-3.

Your Affirmation: "God made my life complete when I placed all the pieces before him. When I got my act together, he gave me a fresh start. Now I'm alert to God's ways; I don't take God for granted. Every day I review the ways he works; I try not to miss a trick. I feel put back together, and I'm watching my step. God rewrote the text of my life when I opened the book of my heart to his eyes", Psalm 18:20-24.

Activation Psalm 116:11-19 The Message (MSG) ⁹⁻¹¹ I'm striding in the presence of GOD, alive in the land of the living! I stayed faithful, though bedeviled, and despite a ton of bad luck, Despite giving up on the human race, saying, "They're all liars and cheats." ¹²⁻¹⁹ What can I give back to GOD for the blessings he's poured out on me? I'll lift high the cup of salvation—a toast to GOD! I'll pray in the name of GOD; I'll complete what I promised GOD I'd do, and I'll do it together with his people. When they arrive at the gates of death, GOD welcomes those who love him. Oh, God, here I am, your servant,

your faithful servant: set me free for your service!
I'm ready to offer the thanksgiving sacrifice

and pray in the name of GoD.

I'll complete what I promised GoD I'd do,

and I'll do it in company with his people,

In the place of worship, in GoD's house,

in Jerusalem, GoD's city.

Hallelujah!

Your Answer from Jesus: "This, in a nutshell, is that will: that everything handed over to me by the Father be completed—not a single detail missed and at the wrap-up of time I have everything and everyone put together, upright and whole. This is what my Father wants: that anyone who sees the Son and trusts who he is and what he does and then aligns with him will enter *real* life, *eternal* life. My part is to put them on their feet alive and whole at the completion of time," John 6:39-40.

I join my faith with yours that all the pieces of your life will resemble the masterpiece God designed before the foundation of the world. "May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together—spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he'll do it!", I Thessalonians 5:23-24.

Destruction has already come to a perpetual end that cannot ever begin again. That's why you must stay committed to rendering satan powerless over your life. That is how you fight where there is no competition. You can't be defeated in any area that Jesus Christ conquered unless you give the victory away.

DISMEMBERED: SATAN CANNOT DO WHAT HE THOUGHT HE COULD DO WITH YOU

Prophetically, Hannah announced Jesus' impact in 1 Samuel 2:10. "The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to [irreconcilable] pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

Jesus testified in John 16:7-11 that the works of satan had already been annihilated. "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

Judged in Greek means to separate or put asunder; literally, to break into pieces".

Revelation 9:11 King James Version (KJV)

¹¹And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

Rev. 9:11 Apollyon [destroyer] is the king that works at the intersection in order to bring death, perish, mar, lose. That is to keep you away from something near in place, time, or relation; you are about to land the promise. The enemy tries to form a weapon to prevent you from the final separation, departure, cessation, completion, or reversal required for you to succeed.

Psalm 143:3-5 The Voice (VOICE)

³My adversary has pressed in, *drawn closer, threatened* my life;

he's crushed me, driven me underground.

He's forced me to live in the dark;

it's as *if I joined* those who died a long time ago.

- ⁴That's why my spirit is growing faint inside me; *I have nothing left;* my heart is *completely empty and* desolate.
- ⁵And yet I can't forget the days of old, the days I've heard so much about; I fix my mind on all You have done;

I ponder the work of Your hands;

Psalm 18:19-24 The Message (MSG)

¹⁶⁻¹⁹But me he caught—reached all the way

from sky to sea; he pulled me out

Of that ocean of hate, that enemy chaos, the void in which I was drowning. They hit me when I was down, but GOD stuck by me. He stood me up on a wide-open field; I stood there saved—surprised to be loved! ²⁰⁻²⁴GOD made my life complete when I placed all the pieces before him. When I got my act together, he gave me a fresh start. Now I'm alert to God's ways; I don't take God for granted. Every day I review the ways he works; I try not to miss a trick. I feel put back together, and I'm watching my step. GOD rewrote the text of my life when I opened the book of my heart to his eyes.

Genesis 3:13-15 The Message (MSG) ¹³ "The serpent seduced me," she said, "and I ate."

¹⁴⁻¹⁵GOD told the serpent:

"Because you've done this, you're cursed,

cursed beyond all cattle and wild animals,

Cursed to slink on your belly

and eat dirt all your life.

I'm declaring war between you and the Woman,

between your offspring and hers.

He'll wound your head,

you'll wound his heel."

Isaiah 14:5-20 Living Bible (TLB)

⁵For the Lord has crushed your wicked power and broken your evil rule." ⁶You persecuted my people with unceasing blows of rage and held the nations in your angry grip. You were unrestrained in tyranny. ⁷But at last the whole earth is at rest and is quiet! All the world begins to sing! ⁸Even the trees of the woods—the fir trees and cedars of Lebanon—sing out this joyous song: "Your power is broken; no one will bother us now; at last we have peace."

⁹The denizens of hell crowd to meet you as you enter their domain. World leaders and earth's mightiest kings, long dead, are there to see you. ¹⁰With one voice they all cry out, "Now you are as weak as we are!" ¹¹Your might and power are gone; they are buried with you. All the pleasant music in your palace has ceased; now maggots are your sheet, worms your blanket!

¹²How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground—mighty though you were against the nations of the world. ¹³For you said to yourself, "I will ascend to heaven and rule the angels.^[a] I will take the highest throne. I will preside on the Mount of Assembly far away in the north.* ¹⁴I will climb to the highest heavens and be like the Most High." ¹⁵But instead, you will be brought down to the pit of hell, down to its lowest depths. ¹⁶Everyone there will stare at you and ask, "Can this be the one who shook the earth and the kingdoms of the world? ¹⁷Can this be the one who destroyed the world and made it into a shambles, who demolished its greatest cities and had no mercy on his prisoners?"

¹⁸The kings of the nations lie in stately glory in their graves, ¹⁹but your body is thrown out like a broken branch; it lies in an open grave, covered with the dead bodies of those slain in battle. It lies as a carcass in the road, trampled and mangled by horses' hoofs. ²⁰No monument will be given you, for you have destroyed your nation and slain your people. Your son will not succeed you as the king.

Footnotes:

a. <u>Isaiah 14:13</u> the angels, literally, "the stars of God." *I will preside on the Mount of Assembly far away in the north,* literally, "I will sit upon the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north" (see <u>Psalm 48:2</u>) or "on the slopes of Mount Saphon."

Hebrews 2:14-15 is your promise that your life has been redeemed from destruction and delivered from the fear of death. Severed! Forever!

Hebrews 2:14-15 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁴Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

¹⁵And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Acts 3:15-17 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁵And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

¹⁶ And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this **perfect soundness** in the presence of you all.

¹⁷And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers.

NO ASSEMBLY REQUIRED: JESUS' BROKENNESS LEFT YOUR LIFE UNBROKEN

Luke 23:42-43 says "And [the thief on the cross] said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise". Death by crucifixion is quite dismantling. Dr. C. Truman Davis, Jesus experienced hours of limitless pain cycles of twisting, joint-rending cramps, intermittent partial [suffocation], searing pain where tissue is torn from his [shredded] back as He moves up and down against the rough timber.

Jesus' promised to reassemble all his broken pieces. In Greek, "remember" means re-collect: to gather again; to collect what has been scattered. The antonym for re-collect is not forget, but dismember i.e., to separate a part from the main body; to divide; to sever; to rend asunder; to tear to pieces; or disfigure.

The resurrected assembly of the dry bones in Ezekiel 37:1-14 gives an image of what God can do in your life to resurrect the dead things, make sure every joint is supplied and knit you together in love. The Lord partnered with Ezekiel to put together a massive army. Can the resurrection power of Christ bring about life from the dissembling of death? Yes! Learn to see on earth as God sees in heaven. Next, only decree and declare on earth, what God decrees and declares in heaven. Allow God full expression to make deposits in your heart. With His Word in your mouth, prophesy for God as His mouthpiece on earth. Refuse to rehearse anything that may be factual but not absolute truth. Don't leave the Lord powerless in your life by assembling contradictions. The Lord works habitually and systematically on earth; restoration always begins and ends with what God breathed. Listen to and for His voice!

Psalm 131:2-3 The Voice (VOICE)

²Of one thing I am certain: my soul has become calm, quiet, and contented in You.

Like a weaned child resting upon his mother, *I am quiet.* My soul is like this weaned child.

³O Israel, stake your trust *completely* in the Eternal from this very moment and into the vast future.

Isaiah 52:13-15 The Voice (VOICE)

¹³ Eternal One: See here! My servant will succeed.

He will grow *in character and reputation,* achieving high standing and status.

¹⁴ Just as people used to be shocked by you,

even so his appearance was disfigured [dismembered];

His form—*once glorious*—was marred until it hardly seemed human.

- ¹⁵ Now many nations will be astonished *at his prominence;* world rulers will be speechless in his presence,
 - For they will see what they've never been told; they will understand what they've never heard.

Isaiah 53 King James Version (KJV)

53 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

²For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

³He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

⁸He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

⁹And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

¹¹He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Cohesion: The Love of God Holds Us Together

The love of God is the miraculous power that put you back together again.

1 John 4:17-19 The Voice (VOICE)

¹⁷This love is fulfilled with us, so that on the day of judgment we have confidence based on our identification with Jesus in this world. ¹⁸Love will never invoke fear. Perfect love expels fear, particularly the fear of punishment. The one who fears *punishment* has not been completed through love.

¹⁹We love because He has first loved us.

God's impenetrable armor covers every part, so you can't ever break into pieces. "Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand", Ephesians 6:13.

Ephesians 6:11-18 Living Bible (TLB)

¹¹Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand safe against all strategies and tricks of satan. ¹²For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world.

¹³So use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy whenever he attacks, and when it is all over, you will still be standing up.

¹⁴ But to do this, you will need the strong belt of truth and the breastplate of God's approval. ¹⁵ Wear shoes that are able to speed you on as you preach the Good News of peace with God. ¹⁶ In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by satan. ¹⁷ And you will need the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit—which is the Word of God.

¹⁸ Pray all the time. Ask God for anything in line with the Holy Spirit's wishes. Plead with him, reminding him of your needs, and keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere.

God's reinforcement always leaves you standing strong. Know this: it remains impossible for any opposing force to separate you from God's love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Philippians 1:5-7 The Passion Translation (TPT)

⁵and our enduring partnership that began the first time I presented to you the gospel. ⁶*I pray with great faith for you*, because I'm fully convinced that the One who began this glorious work^a in you will faithfully continue the process of maturing you^a and will put his finishing touches to it until the unveiling^a of our Lord Jesus Christ!

⁷ It's no wonder I pray with such confidence, since you have a permanent place in my heart!^[4] You have remained partners with me in the wonderful grace *of God* even though I'm here in chains for standing up for the truth of the gospel.^[6]

Footnotes:

- a. <u>Philippians 1:6</u> Or "good [worthwhile] work." Paul uses language here that sounds similar to Gen. <u>1:2</u>. When God created the heavens and the earth, he declared it to be "good." And now with the new creation life within us, God again sees our growth in grace as something good.
- b. Philippians 1:6 Or "he will see to it that you remain faithful."
- c. Philippians 1:6 Literally "day of Christ." This is the day of his unveiling, his appearing.
- d. Philippians 1:7 Or "since you have given me a permanent place in your hearts."
- e. <u>Philippians 1:7</u> The Aramaic can be translated "the truth of God's revelation." The Greek can also be translated "for the defense and proof (a possible hendiadys) of the gospel."

John 1:16 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

¹⁶For out of His fullness (abundance) we have all received [all had a share and we were all supplied with] one grace after another *and*spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing *and* even favor upon favor *and*gift [heaped] upon gift. Romans 15:29 King James Version (KJV)

²⁹And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

Philippians 4:13 King James Version (KJV)

¹³I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Psalm 138:8 The Passion Translation (TPT)

You keep every promise you've ever made to me! Since your love for me is constant and endless,

I ask you, Lord, to finish every good thing that you've begun in me!

Psalm 139 The Passion Translation (TPT)

You Know All About Me

139 For the Pure and Shining One

King David's poetic song

¹Lord, you know everything there is to know about me.

²You perceive every movement of my heart and soul,

and you understand my every thought before it even enters my mind.

³⁻⁴You are so intimately aware of me, Lord.

You read my heart like an open book

and you know all the words I'm about to speak

before I even start a sentence!

You know every step I will take before my journey even begins.

⁵You've gone into my future to prepare the way,

and in kindness you follow behind me

to spare me from the harm of my past.^[a]

With your hand of love upon my life,

you impart a blessing to me.

⁶This is just too wonderful, deep, and incomprehensible!

Your understanding of me brings me wonder and strength.

⁷Where could I go from your Spirit?

Where could I run and hide from your face?

⁸If I go up to heaven, you're there!

If I go down to the realm of the dead, you're there too! ⁹If I fly with wings into the shining dawn, you're there! If I fly into the radiant sunset, you're there waiting! ¹⁰Wherever I go, your hand will guide me; your strength will empower me. ¹¹ It's impossible to disappear from you or to ask the darkness to hide me, for your presence is everywhere, bringing light into my night. ¹²There is no such thing as darkness with you. The night, to you, is as bright as the day; there's no difference between the two. ¹³You formed my innermost being, shaping my delicate inside and my intricate outside, and wove them all together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I thank you, God, for making me so mysteriously complex! Everything you do is marvelously breathtaking. It simply amazes me to think about it! How thoroughly you know me, Lord! ¹⁵You even formed every bone in my body when you created me in the secret place, [2] carefully, skillfully shaping men from nothing to something. ¹⁶You saw who you created me to be before I became me!^[1] Before I'd ever seen the light of day, the number of days you planned for me were already recorded in your book. ¹⁷⁻¹⁸ Every single moment you are thinking of me! How precious and wonderful to consider that you cherish me constantly in your every thought! O God, your desires toward me are more than the grains of sand on every shore! When I awake each morning, you're still with me. ¹⁹O God, come and slay these bloodthirsty, murderous men! For I cry out, "Depart from me, you wicked ones!" ²⁰See how they blaspheme your sacred name and lift up themselves against you, but all in vain! ²¹Lord, can't you see how I despise those who despise you?

For I grieve when I see them rise up against you.

²²I have nothing but complete hatred and disgust for them.

Your enemies shall be my enemies!

²³God, I invite your searching gaze into my heart.

Examine me through and through;

find out everything that may be hidden within me.

Put me to the test and sift through all my anxious cares.

²⁴See if there is any path of pain I'm walking on,

and lead me back to your glorious, everlasting ways-

the path that brings me back to you.

Footnotes:

- a. <u>Psalm 139:5</u> Or "You hem me in [lit., "beseige me"] before and behind." The implication is that God protects him from what may come in the future and what has happened in the past.
- b. Psalm 139:6 As translated from the Septuagint. The Hebrew reads "too high to understand."
- c. <u>Psalm 139:9</u> Implied in the Hebrew, which states, "the remote parts of the sea" or "beyond the horizon to the west." The sea is west of Israel.
- d. <u>Psalm 139:13</u> The Hebrew word for "knit" or "wove" can also be translated "to cover" or "to defend." God places an eternal spirit inside the conceived child within the womb of a mother and covers that life, sends the child a guardian angel, and watches over him or her.
- e. <u>Psalm 139:15</u> The Hebrew text is literally "the depths of the earth."
- f. Psalm 139:15 Or "embroidered me."
- g. Psalm 139:16 The Hebrew could be translated "as an embryo."
- h. Psalm 139:16 See Ps. 69:28.

Psalm 40:10-12 The Message (MSG) (bv)

⁹⁻¹⁰ I've preached you to the whole congregation,

I've kept back nothing, GOD—you know that.

I didn't keep the news of your ways

a secret, didn't keep it to myself.

I told it all, how dependable you are, how thorough.

I didn't hold back pieces of love and truth

For myself alone. I told it all,

let the congregation know the whole story.

¹¹⁻¹²Now GOD, don't hold out on me,

don't hold back your passion.

Your love and truth

are all that keeps me together.

When troubles ganged up on me,
a mob of sins past counting,
I was so swamped by guilt
I couldn't see my way clear.
More guilt in my heart than hair on my head,
so heavy the guilt that my heart gave out.

Jeremiah 17:13-18 The Message (MSG)
¹²⁻¹³ From early on your Sanctuary was set high, a throne of glory, exalted!
O GOD, you're the hope of Israel. All who leave you end up as fools,
Deserters with nothing to show for their lives, who walk off from GOD, fountain of living waters and wind up dead!

¹⁴⁻¹⁸ GOD, pick up the pieces. Put me back together again. You are my praise!
Listen to how they talk about me: "So where's this 'Word of GOD'? We'd like to see something happen!"
But it wasn't my idea to call for Doomsday. I never wanted trouble.
You know what I've said. It's all out in the open before you.
Don't add to my troubles. Give me some relief!
Let those who harass me be harassed, not me.

Let *them* be disgraced, not me.

Bring down upon them the day of doom.

Lower the boom. Boom!

Psalm 89:7-9 The Voice (VOICE)

⁷In the council of holy ones, God is *lifted high and* feared; His presence overwhelms all who are near Him.

⁸O Eternal God, Commander of *heaven's* armies, who is mighty like You?

You are completely faithful; that's why we trust You.

[°]The ocean waters are at Your command.

When violent waves rise up, You still them.

Psalm 76:7-9 The Voice (VOICE)

⁷You are feared; yes, You.

And who can stand before You when Your anger flares?

^aYou decreed judgment from the heavens.

The earth heard it and was petrified with fear, completely still,

⁹When the True God arose for judgment

to deliver all the meek of the earth.

[pause]

For the worship leader. A song of David accompanied by the lyre.[1]

¹O Eternal One, don't punish me in Your anger or harshly correct me.

²Show me grace, Eternal God. I am completely undone.

Bring me back together, Eternal One. Mend my shattered bones.

³My soul is drowning in darkness.

How long can You, the Eternal, let things go on like this?

Proverbs 3:4-6 The Voice (VOICE)

⁴In this way, you will win the favor of God and others, and they will think well of you.

Psalm 6:1-3 The Voice (VOICE)

- ⁵Place your trust in the Eternal; *rely on Him* completely;
- never depend upon your own ideas and inventions.
- ⁶Give Him the credit for everything you accomplish,
- and He will *smooth out and* straighten the road that lies ahead.