

Prayers in Times of Disaster

God of love,
turn our hearts to your ways;
and give us peace. Amen.

O God our creator,
in Your great kindness,
look upon our brothers and sisters
suffering in disaster.
Comfort those who are grieving
and be with them in their pain.
Help them to mourn
and to move on.
Bless them as they work
to rebuild their lives.
We thank You
for the sign of Your Presence
in all who come to their aid. Amen.

O God our creator,
we call upon You today
to bless those people
suffering in disaster.
They have lost so much:
family and friends,
homes and land,
and meaning.
Let them know You are with them
even in their shock and grief.
Strengthen them to comfort one another.
And in the people reaching out to help,
may they see the face of Your love.
Amen

An Act of Dedication

We come to you, God Creator.
You are the source of light and beauty and power.
Your Son Jesus is the way of faith and hope and love.
Your Spirit is the fire of love, the fount of wisdom, the bond of unity.
You call us at all times to be people of the beatitudes,
witnesses to the Gospel of peace and love and forgiveness.
Especially do you call us
at this time of destruction and broken lives,
We renew our acceptance of your call.
We promise to work
to bring the light of the Gospel to those living in darkness;
to bring the hope of the Gospel to those living in despair;
to bring the healing of the Gospel to the lonely,
the disadvantaged, the marginalized:

Lord in heaven,
please listen to all those who are praying to you now.
Those who are sad and crying,
those who have lost friends and family,
those who are alone and frightened.
Help them to remember, that you are there
and you are listening.
In Jesus' name, we pray: Amen.

God of goodness and love,
whom we can trust to be with us in every hour of need;
watch over and protect all who are faced with fear.
Protect the children and their families keep them together and safe from harm.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

A disaster Blessing

Blessed are those who mourn for the storms victims; may they
find comfort in their pain and hope in their helplessness.
Blessed are those who found a way to survive; may they now find
sufficient strength and healing as they reassemble the scattered
pieces of shattered lives.
Blessed are those who tirelessly strive to give relief; may they
be amply encouraged in their valiant efforts.
Blessed are those who generously give money and supplies . . . may
they know the deep satisfaction of having made a difference.
Blessed are those who unite now in compassionate
service and love; may they show us what it means to be family.

Psalm 46: 1-3

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Psalm 90: 1, 2

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Psalm 91: 1-4a

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God in whom I trust. For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge.

Isaiah 54: 10

For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart

from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Psalm 57: 1-3

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, until the destroying storms pass by. Cry to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me. He will send from heaven and save me, he will put to shame those who trample on me. God will send forth his steadfast love and his faithfulness.

Psalm 130: 1-6

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD, Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

Matthew 5: 2-4

Then [Jesus] began to speak, and taught them, saying:
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”

John 14: 1-3

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.”

Lamentations 3: 22-24

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

Romans 8: 22-25

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

2 Corinthians 1: 3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.

Revelation 21: 1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more; for the first things have passed away.”

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