

## Psalm 20

*Exaudiat te Dominus*

1 May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble, \*  
the name of the God of Jacob defend you;

2 send you help from the holy place of the Lord \*  
and strengthen you out of Zion;

3 remember all your offerings \*  
and accept your burnt sacrifice;

4 grant you your heart's desire \*  
and prosper all your plans.

5 We will shout for joy at your victory  
and triumph in the name of our God; \*  
may the Lord grant all your requests.

6 Now I know that you, O Lord, give victory to your anointed, \*  
whom you will answer out of the heavenly realms  
with the victorious strength of your mighty hand.

7 Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, \*  
but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God.

8 They collapse and fall down, \*  
but we will arise and stand upright.

9 O Lord, give victory to your anointed \*  
and answer us when we call.

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word, and Holy Spirit:  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**Psalm 21:1-7**

*Domine, in virtute tua*

1 The king rejoices in your strength, O Lord; \*  
how greatly he exults in your victory!

2 You have given him his heart's desire; \*  
you have not denied him the request of his lips.

3 For you meet him with blessings of prosperity, \*  
and set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

4 He asked you for life, and you gave it to him; \*  
length of days, for ever and ever.

5 His honour is great, because of your victory; \*  
splendour and majesty have you bestowed upon him.

6 For you will give him everlasting felicity \*  
and will make him glad with the joy of your presence.

7 For the king trusts in you, O Lord; \*  
because of your loving-kindness, O Most High,  
he will not fall.

### 3 John 1-15

A reading from the third letter of John.

The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul. For I was overjoyed when some brothers and sisters arrived and testified to your faithfulness to the truth, how you walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brothers and sisters, even though they are strangers to you; they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of God, for they began their journey for the sake of Christ, accepting no support from nonbelievers. Therefore we ought to support such people, so that we may become coworkers with the truth.

I have written something to the church, but Diotrephes, who likes to put himself first, does not welcome us. So if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing in spreading false charges against us. And not content with those charges, he refuses to welcome the brothers and sisters and even prevents those who want to do so and expels them from the church.

Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but imitate what is good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God. Everyone has testified favorably about Demetrius, and so has the truth itself. We also testify for him, and you know that our testimony is true.

I have much to write to you, but I would rather not write to you with pen and ink; instead, I hope to see you soon, and we will talk together face to face.

Peace to you. The friends send you their greetings. Greet the friends there, each by name.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**