



- Have you made one mistake in your life that has defined how others perceive you completely?
 - Eve did.
 - She was deceived by the Serpent — a direct and personal attack by Satan
 - Could you have withstood that?
 - Although also called “the mother of all living”
 - An beautiful appellation we probably don’t mention enough.
 - Does it mean more than just she was the first to give birth?



- In some ways, this lesson won't be fair to Eve.
- Some of my points are going to be more generalized about women
- And what we know of her specifically is instructive, but minimal: she was deceived.

in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them.
- 31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
- Woman is created in the image of God, just like man.

in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- One of Satan's most successful ploys has been the war between men and women.
 - There are many men, across time and cultures, who consider women to be less than man (in a variety of ways)
 - They feel justified in treating women with contempt, despising them.
 - They see women as weak, unintelligent, inferior
 - Essentially useful for only making babies and serving men.
 - Often, they justify this using God's Word.
 - Selectively chosen passages twisted to meet their presuppositions and desires

in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- Jehovah, however, created woman in his image.
 - Throughout the Bible, we see that he values women.
 - Miriam
 - Deborah was a judge
 - Jesus often broke the cultural strictures in his dealings with women, completely ignoring the man-made rules.
 - They accompanied him as he was teaching. They supported him.
 - He talked to the Samaritan woman
 - Mary, sister of Martha, sat at his feet to learn.

in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- Galatians 3:27-29 (ESV) 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, **heirs according to promise.**

in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- Which leads us to a passage we must discuss because of how it has been misused.
- 1 Peter 3:7 (ESV) 7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.
 - first, note that Peter says that wives are “heirs with you of the grace of life”
 - an understanding way
 - understanding what?

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male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- Show honor to the woman
 - Show: Give
 - Honor: Value! precious
 - “as the weaker vessel” — Simile (uniform across translations)
 - “vessel” is sometimes of a container, sometimes used of the human body

in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- 2 Timothy 2:20-21 (ESV) 20 Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. 21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

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male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- the weaker vessel could be a reference to a container that is more valuable because it is more finely made and therefore breaks easier; as opposed to the container that is used daily ... utilitarian, stronger, not a big deal if it breaks.
- If so, Peter is using this simile to teach men to treat their wives with understanding and honor because of how precious they are.
 - I don't think he's saying women are weaker physically, emotionally, or in any other sense.
 - Rather, he's reminding all husbands that their wives are precious and specifically that they are heirs just like the men.

in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them

Genesis 1:27



- Women have value because they are made in God's image and are heirs of eternal life.
 - To ever treat a woman as less than this rejecting God's clear teaching.



Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."
Genesis 2:18

- Genesis 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."
- What does God mean by "helper"?

My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:2



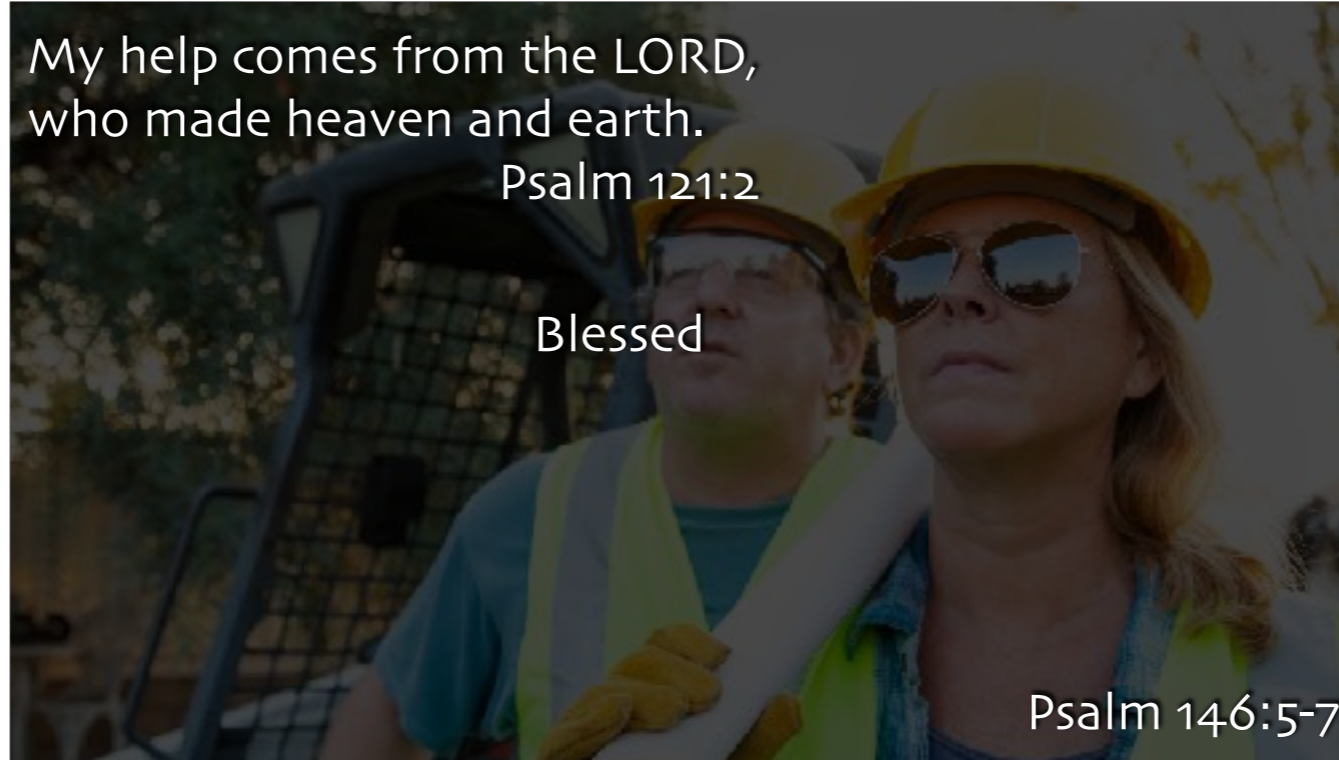
- Psalms 121:1-2 (ESV) 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? 2 My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:2

Blessed

Psalm 146:5-7



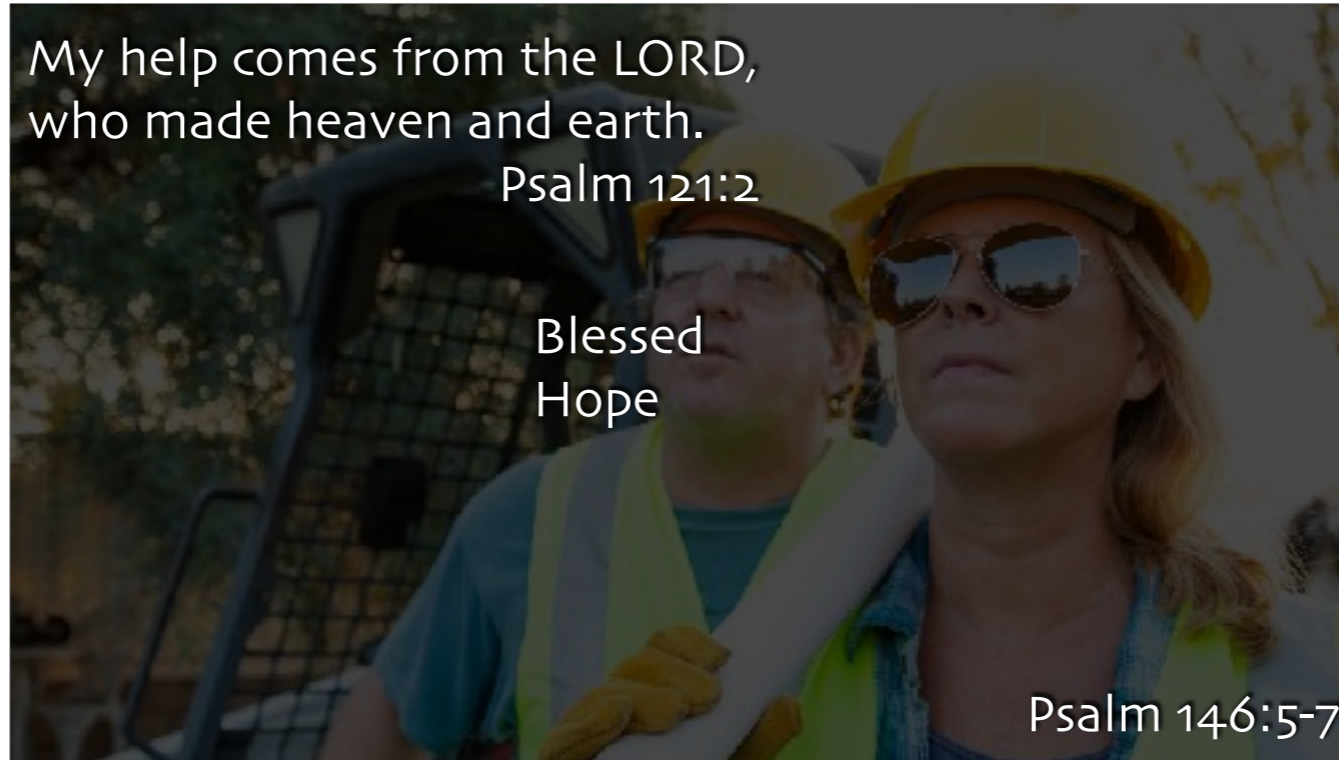
- Psalms 146:5-7 (ESV) 5 **Blessed** is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

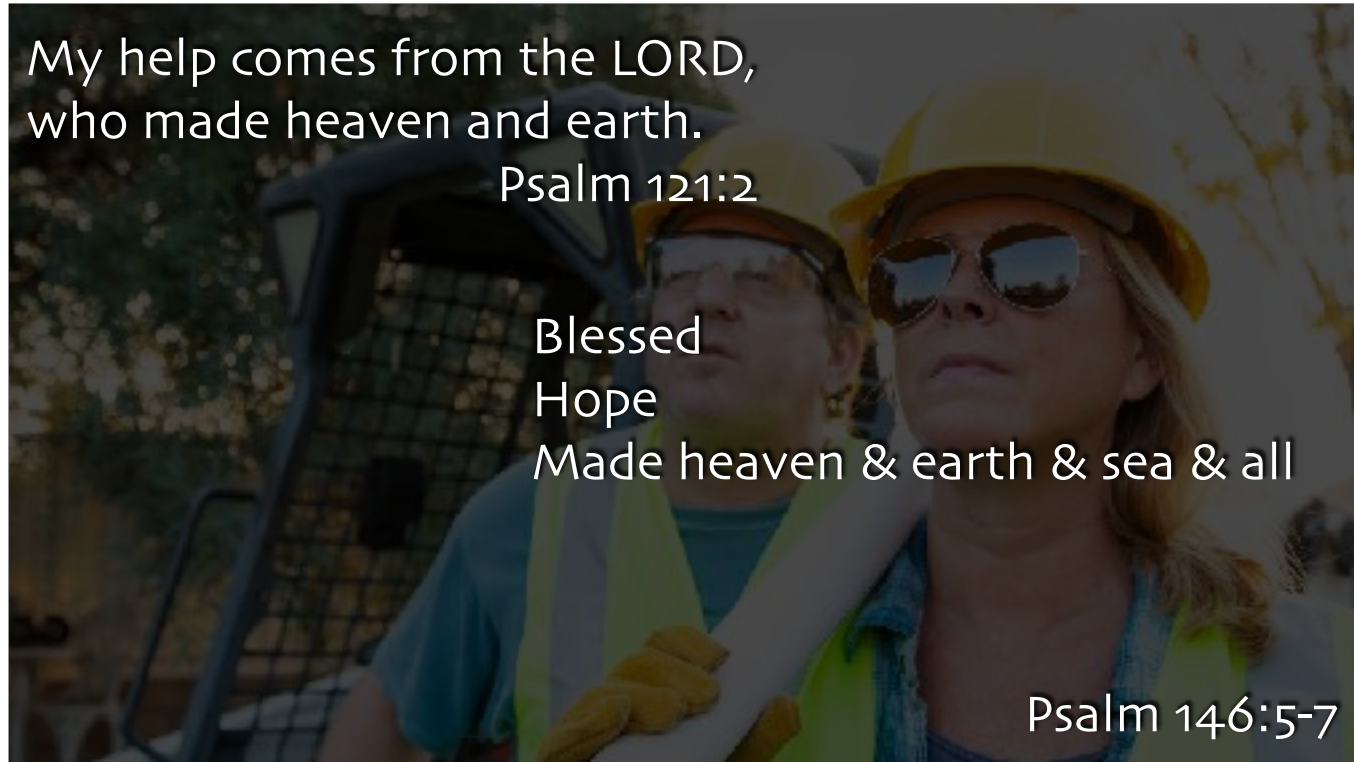
Psalm 121:2

Blessed
Hope

Psalm 146:5-7



- whose hope is in the LORD his God



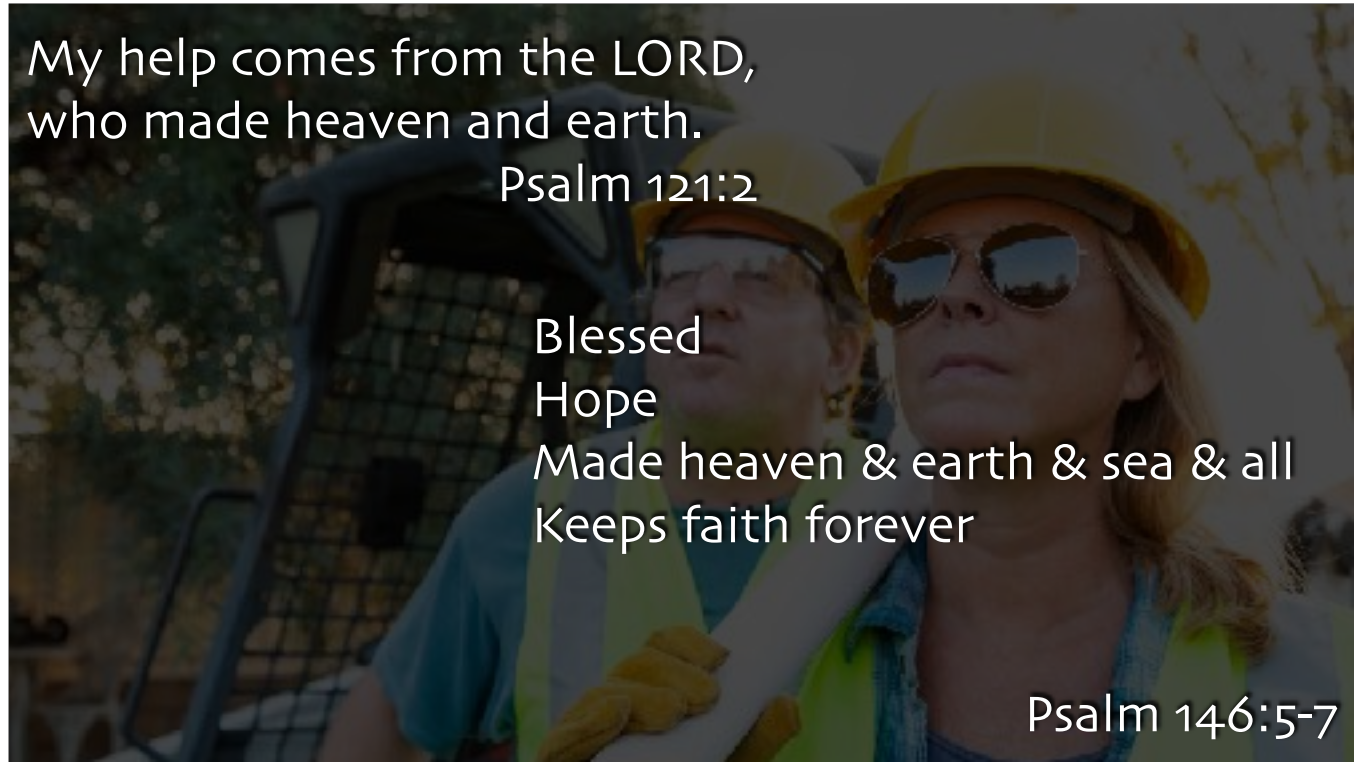
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:2

Blessed
Hope
Made heaven & earth & sea & all

Psalm 146:5-7

- 6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them



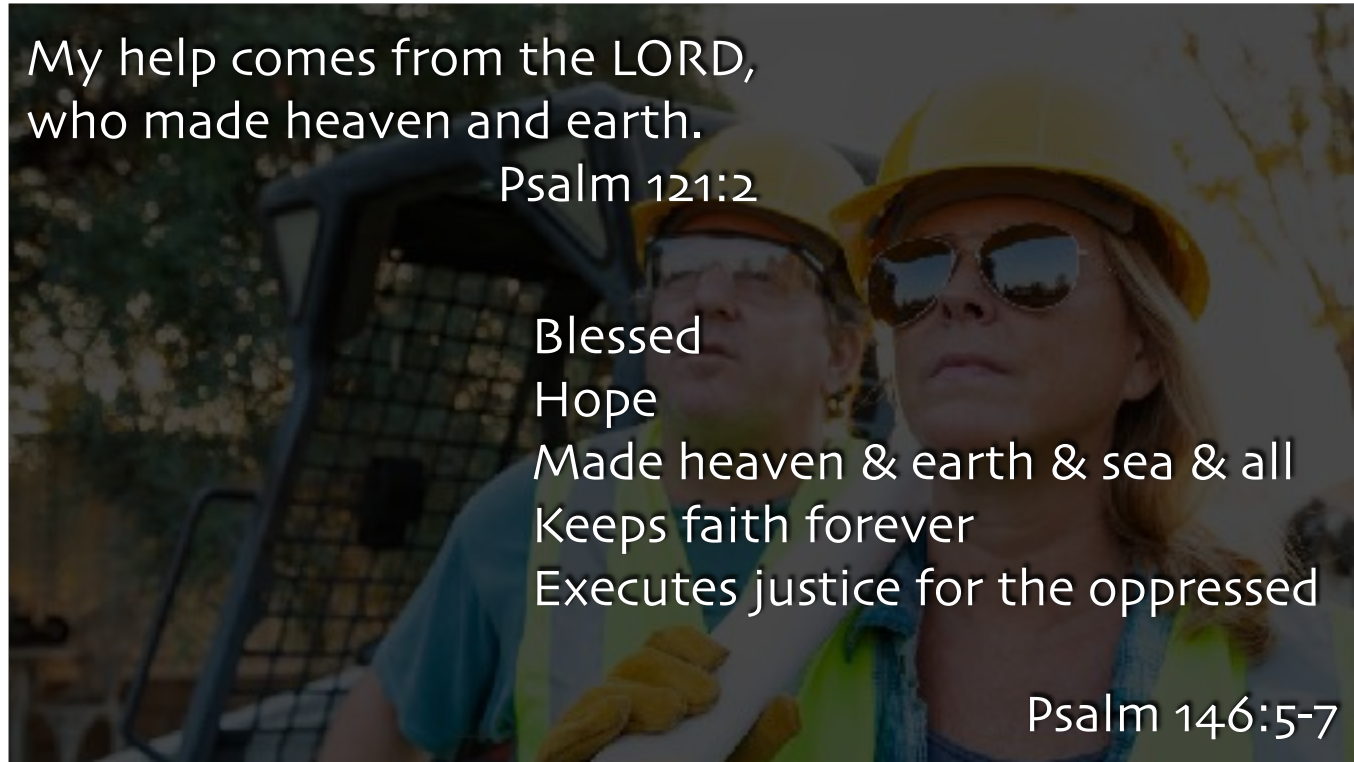
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:2

Blessed
Hope
Made heaven & earth & sea & all
Keeps faith forever

Psalm 146:5-7

- who keeps faith forever



My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

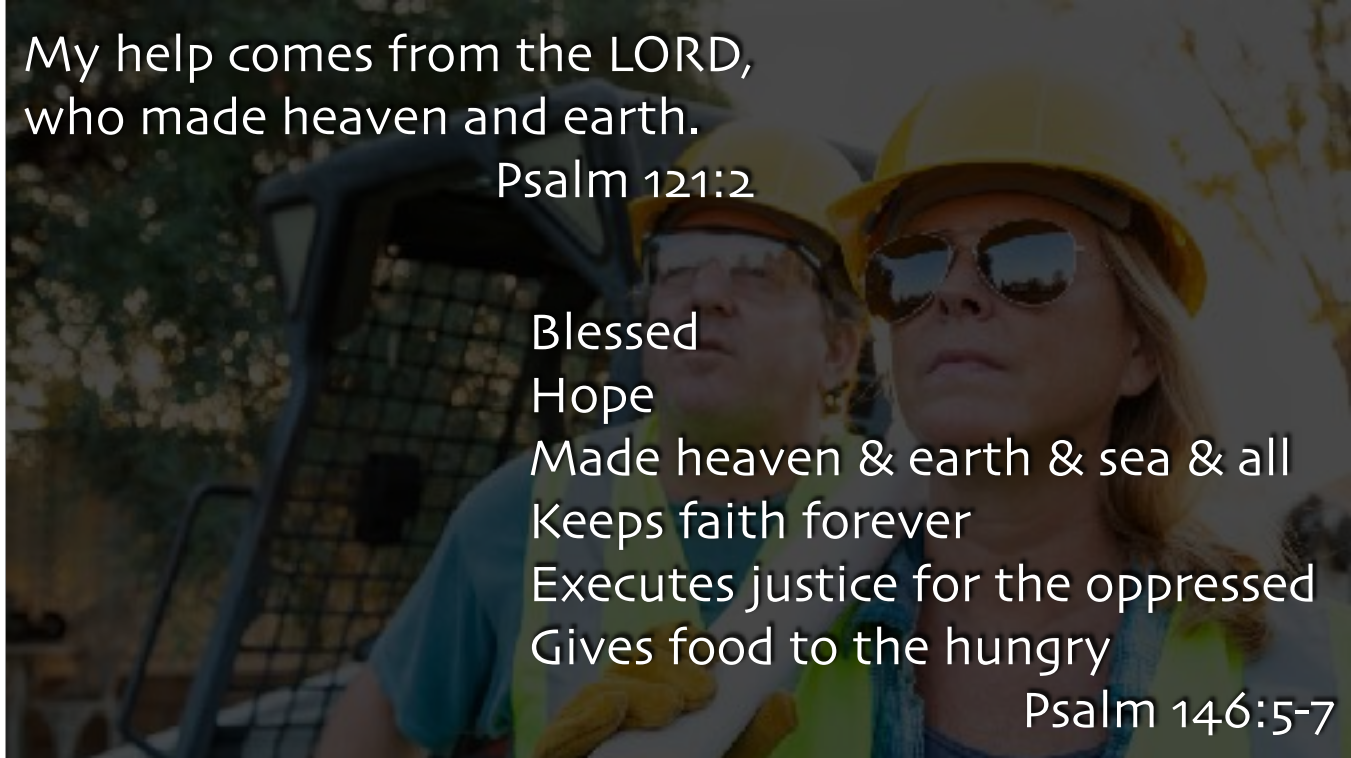
Psalm 121:2

Blessed
Hope

Made heaven & earth & sea & all
Keeps faith forever
Executes justice for the oppressed

Psalm 146:5-7

- 7 who **executes justice** for the oppressed



My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

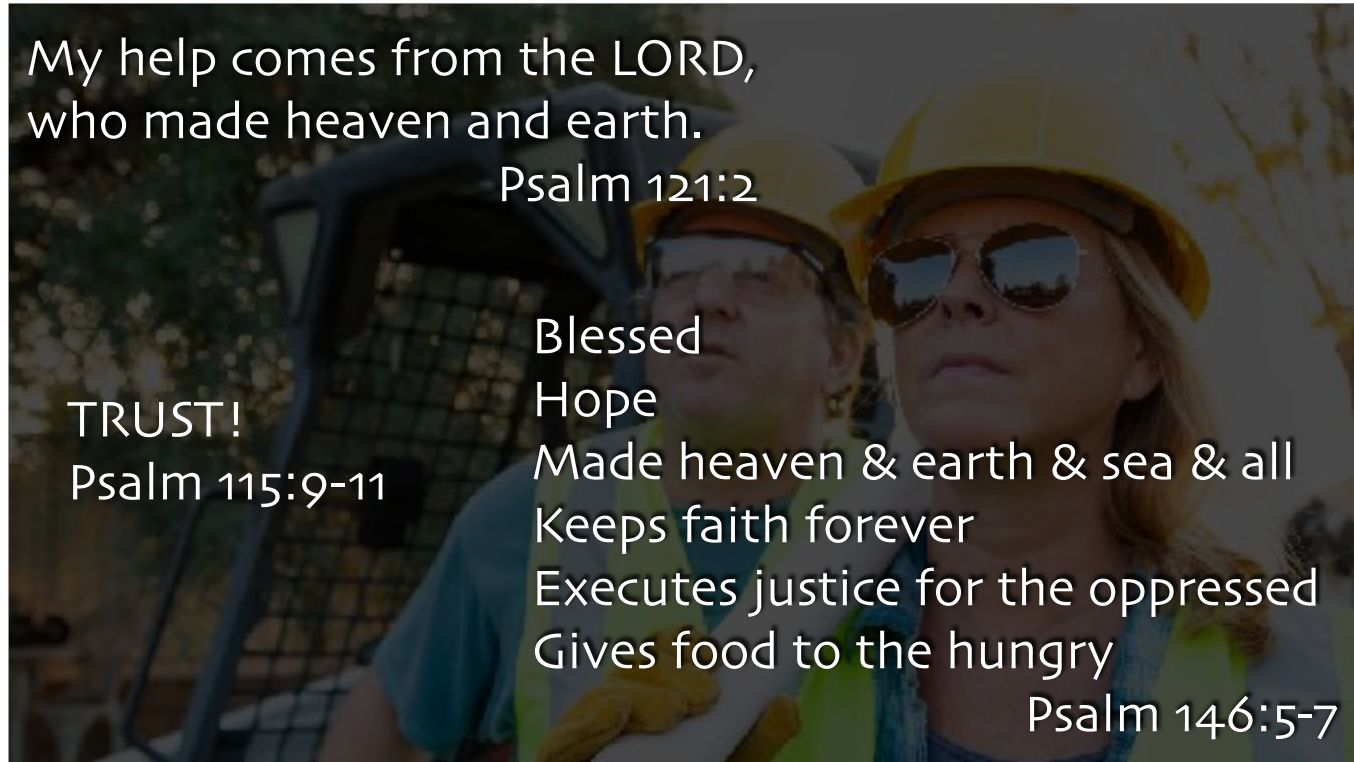
Psalm 121:2

Blessed
Hope

Made heaven & earth & sea & all
Keeps faith forever
Executes justice for the oppressed
Gives food to the hungry

Psalm 146:5-7

- who gives food to the hungry.



My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:2

TRUST!
Psalm 115:9-11

Blessed
Hope
Made heaven & earth & sea & all
Keeps faith forever
Executes justice for the oppressed
Gives food to the hungry

Psalm 146:5-7

- Psalms 115:9-11 (ESV) 9 O Israel, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. 10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. 11 You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.



- Genesis 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."
- Helper
 - (Mounce's) have been designed by God to stand together and help each other fight the battles of life. And God is there as the divine 'ēzer to fight with them.
 - (ESV Study Bible Notes) one who supplies strength in the area that is lacking in "the helped." The term does not imply that the helper is either stronger or weaker than the one helped.



- (NET Bible Notes - Full Notes)

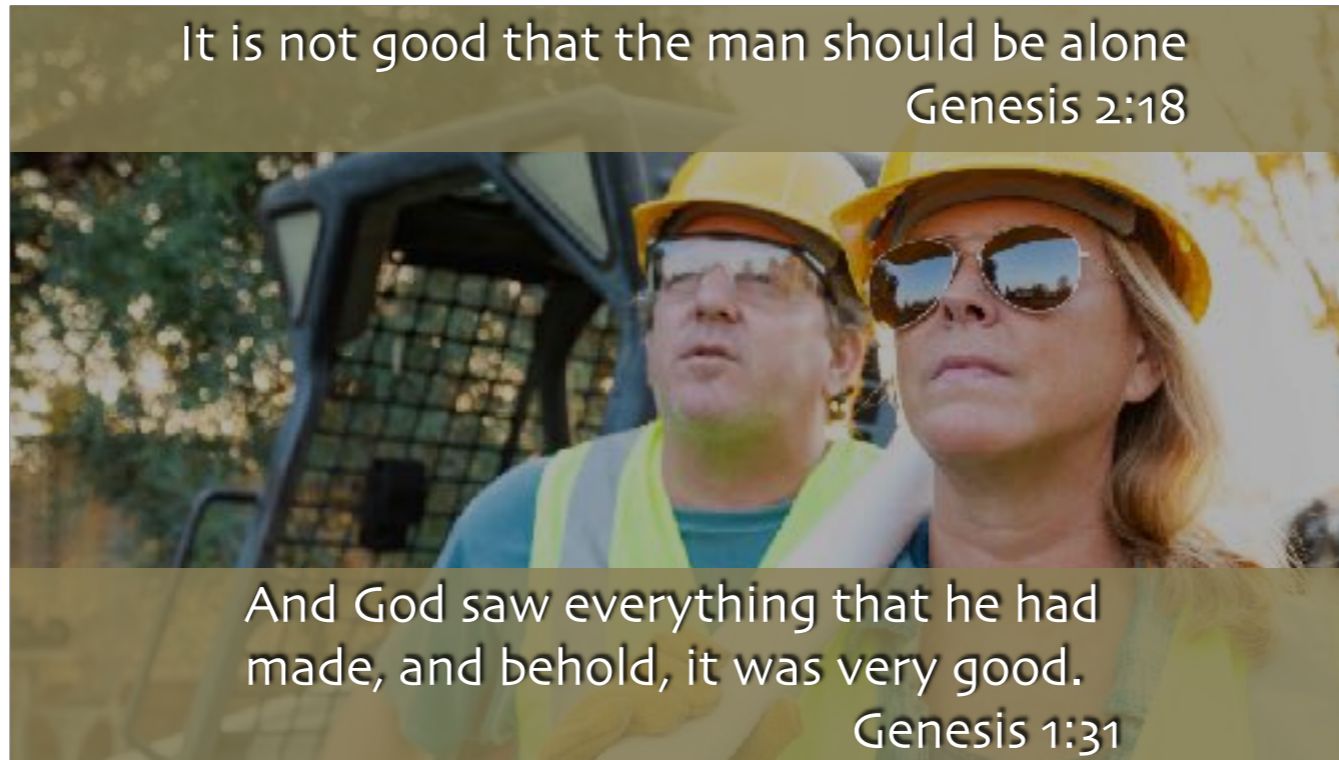
- Usage of the Hebrew term does not suggest a subordinate role, a connotation which English "helper" can have.
- In the Bible God is frequently described as the "helper," the one who does for us what we cannot do for ourselves, the one who meets our needs.
- In this context the word seems to express the idea of an "indispensable companion."



- Fit

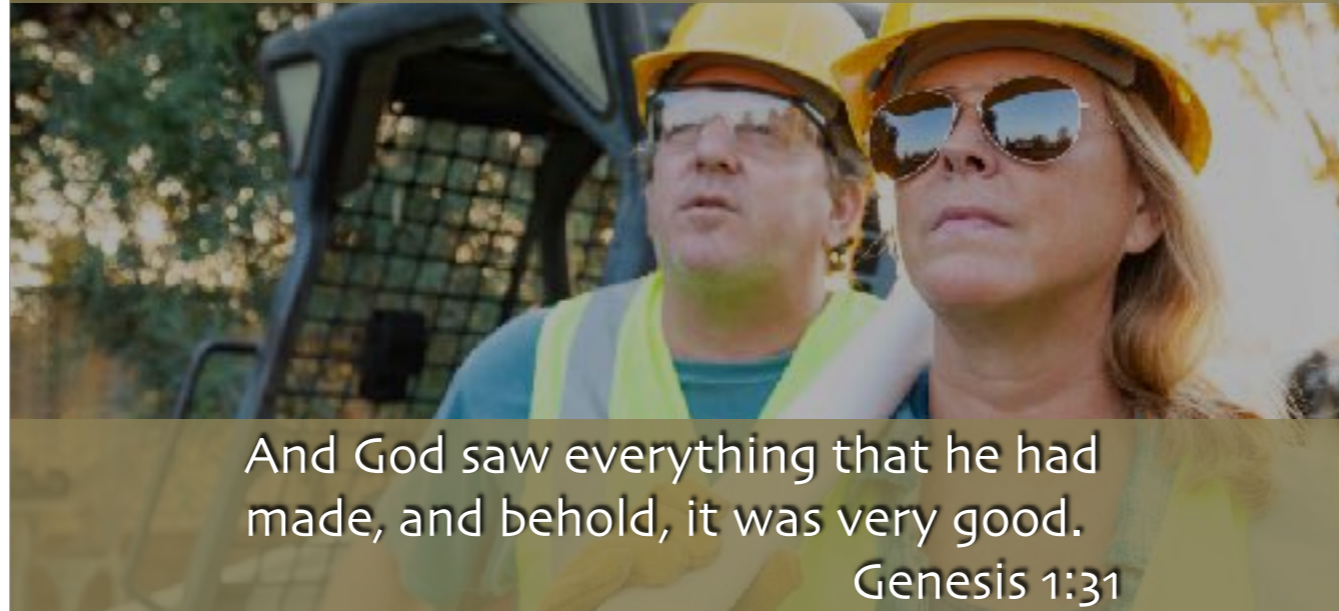
- (NET Bible Notes - Full Notes)

- The Hebrew expression כְּנֶגְדּוֹ (kénégdo) literally means "according to the opposite of him."
 - Translations such as "suitable [for]" (NASB, NIV), "matching," "corresponding to" all capture the idea.
 - The man's form and nature are matched by the woman's as she reflects him and complements him.
 - Together they correspond.
 - In short, this prepositional phrase indicates that she has everything that God had invested in him.



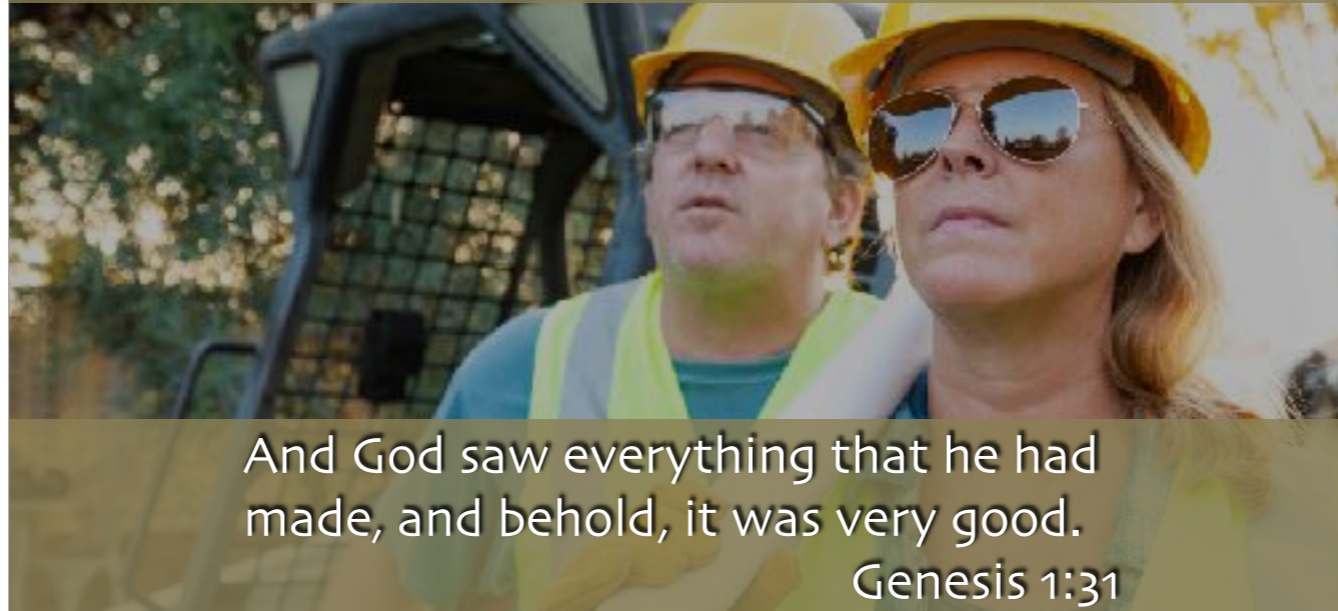
- Not good to very good
 - Genesis 2:18: It is not good that the man should be alone ...
 - The naming of the beasts of the field and birds (19-20)
 - But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.
 - There are a lot of things that the animals can do for man: power, transportation, companionship to some extent

It is not good that the man should be alone
Genesis 2:18

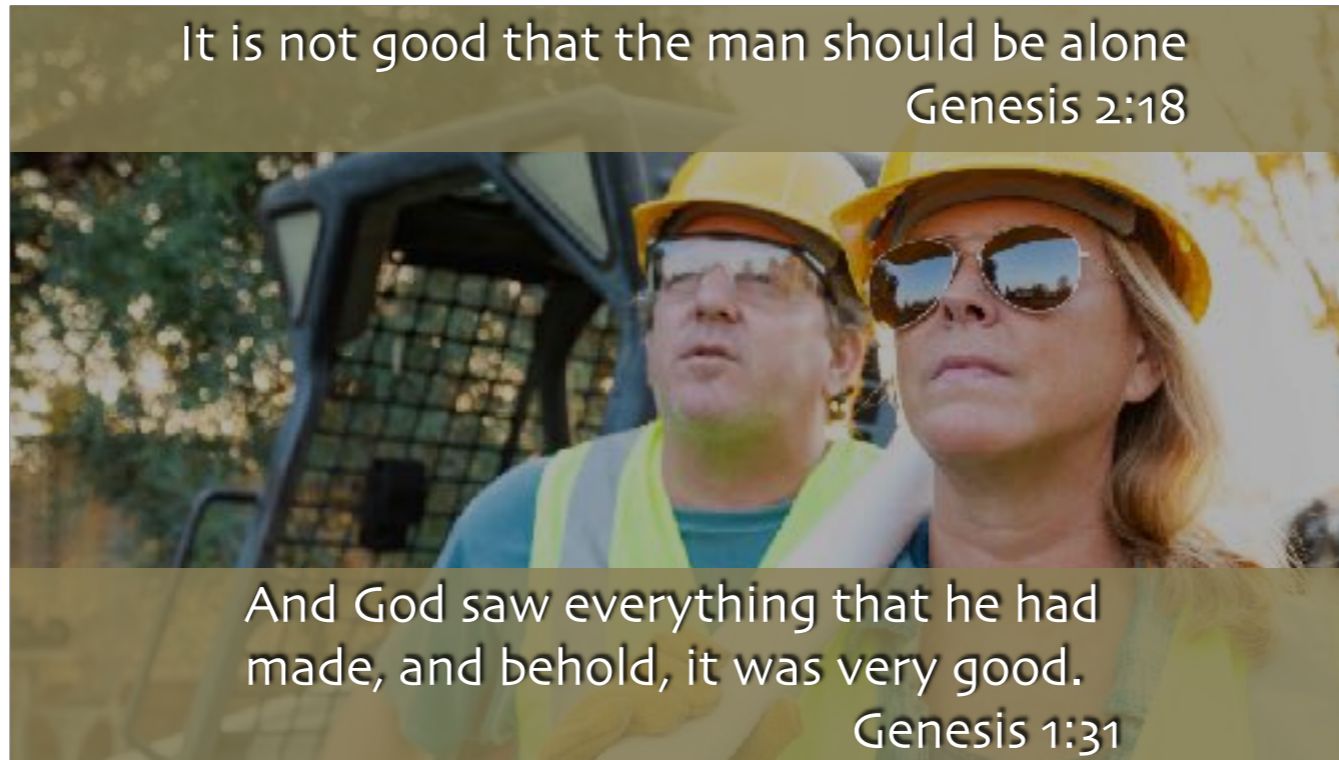


- Creation of woman
 - From rib of man
 - At last!
 - bone of my bones
 - flesh of my flesh
- Genesis 1:31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

It is not good that the man should be alone
Genesis 2:18

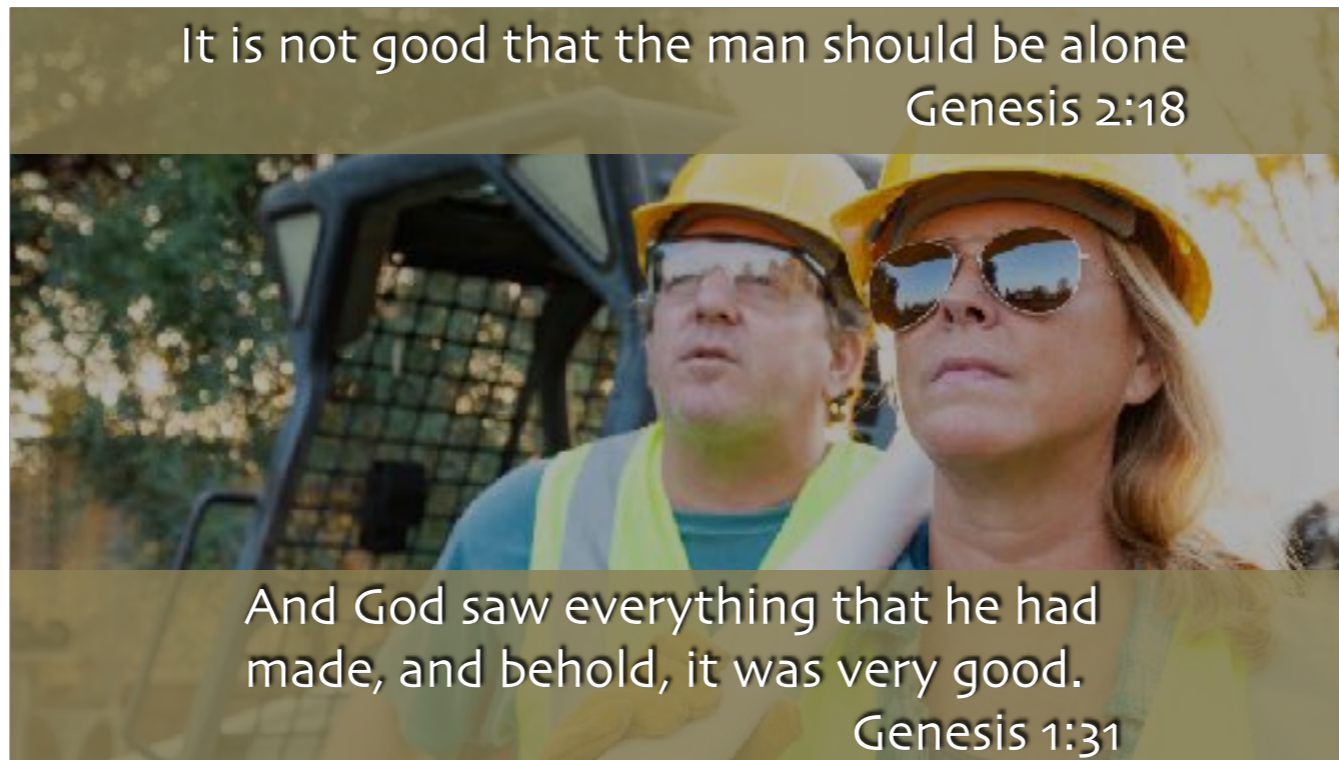


- Being a helper is very good.
 - I know the context of this passage is about marriage
 - But generally, being an helper is a good thing.
- Working together and helping others is very good



- Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (ESV)

- 9 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.
 - 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow.
 - But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!
- 11 Again, if two lie together, they keep warm,
 - but how can one keep warm alone?
- 12 And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.



- Paul's Companions

- Philippians 4:2-3 (ESV) 2 I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. 3 Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- Philippians 1:27 (ESV) 27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

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Helper: Eve (part 1)

Genesis 2:18

Synopsis: Eve reminds us of the value of women and the absolute importance and necessity of being a helper.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”