

## VERSES FROM SCRIPTURE

# Willing Acceptance

Reference	Text
1 Corinthians 10:13	No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it. (MSG)
1 Corinthians 15:58	With all this going for us, my dear, dear friends, stand your ground. And don't hold back. Throw yourselves into the work of the Master, confident that nothing you do for him is a waste of time or effort. (MSG)
2 Corinthians 1 : 6, 7	When we suffer for Jesus, it works out for your healing and salvation. If we are treated well, given a helping hand and encouraging word, that also works to your benefit, spurring you on, face forward, unflinching. Your hard times are also our hard times. When we see that you're just as willing to endure the hard times as to enjoy the good times, we know you're going to make it, no doubt about it. (MSG)
2 Corinthians 4:17	Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. (NIV)
2 Corinthians 10:5	We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. (MSG)
2 Corinthians 12:7-10	<p>...so I wouldn't get a big head, I was given the gift of a handicap to keep me in constant touch with my limitations. Satan's angel did his best to get me down; what he in fact did was push me to my knees. No danger then of walking around high and mighty!</p> <p>At first I didn't think of it as a gift, and begged God to remove it. Three times I did that, and then he told me, My grace is enough; it's all you need. My strength comes into its own in your weakness. Once I heard that, I was glad to let it happen. I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride and with good cheer...I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become. (MSG)</p>

## Appendix 6: Willing Acceptance

Reference	Text
1 John 3:13	So don't be surprised, friends, when the world hates you. This has been going on a long time. (MSG)
1 Kings 5:28	May he keep us centred and devoted to him, following the life path he has cleared, watching the signposts, walking at the pace and rhythms he laid down for our ancestors. (MSG)
1 Samuel 17:48	As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. (NIV)
1 Peter 2:18-20	Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. There's no particular virtue in accepting punishment that you well deserve. But if you're treated badly for good behaviour and continue in spite of it to be a good servant, that is what counts with God. (MSG)
2 Peter 1:5-6	For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; (MSG)
2 Timothy 3:12	Anyone who wants to live all out for Christ is in for a lot of trouble; there's no getting around it. (MSG)
Colossians 1:11	We pray that you'll have the strength to stick it out over the long haul--not the grim strength of gritting your teeth but the glory-strength God gives. It is strength that endures the unendurable and spills over into joy. (MSG)
Ecclesiastes 5:19-20	Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work. It's God's gift! God deals out joy in the present, the now. It's useless to brood over how long we might live. (MSG)
Ecclesiastes 7:14	On a good day, enjoy yourself; On a bad day, examine your conscience. God arranges for both kinds of days So that we won't take anything for granted. (MSG)

Reference	Text
Ecclesiastes 9:11	I took another walk around the neighbourhood and realized that on this earth as it is--The race is not always to the swift, Nor the battle to the strong, Nor satisfaction to the wise, Nor riches to the smart, Nor grace to the learned. Sooner or later bad luck hits us all. (MSG)
Ecclesiastes 11:4	Don't sit there watching the wind. Do your own work. Don't stare at the clouds. Get on with your life. (MSG)
Galatians 2:20	I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. (NIV)
Hebrews 12:1	Do you see what this means--all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running--and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. (MSG)
Hebrews 12:2	Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed--that exhilarating finish in and with God - he could put up with anything along the way: cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honour, right alongside God. (MSG)
Hebrews 12:3	When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he ploughed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls! (MSG)
Hebrews 12:7	God is educating you; that's why you must never drop out. He's treating you as dear children. This trouble you're in isn't punishment; it's training. (MSG)
James 1:2-4	Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colours. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way. (MSG)
James 4:13-15	And now I have a word for you who brashly announce, " <i>Today--at the latest, tomorrow--we're off to such and such a city for the year. We're going to start a business and make a lot of money.</i> " You don't know the first thing about tomorrow. You're nothing but a wisp of fog, catching a brief bit of sun before disappearing. Instead, make it a habit to say, " <i>If the Master wills it and we're still alive, we'll do this or that.</i> " (MSG)

## Appendix 6: Willing Acceptance

Reference	Text
Job 5:7	It's human! Mortals are born and bred for trouble, as certainly as sparks fly upward. (MSG)
John 15:18,19	If you find the godless world hates you, remember it got its start hating me. If you lived on the world's terms, the world would love you as one of its own. But since I picked you to live on God's terms and no longer on the world's terms, the world is going to hate you." (MSG)
John 16:33	I've told you all this so that trusting me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world. (MSG)
Lamentations 3:28-31	When life is heavy and hard to take, go off by yourself. Enter the silence. Bow in prayer. Don't ask questions. Wait for hope to appear. Don't run from trouble. Take it full-face. The 'worst' is never the worst. Why? Because the Master won't ever walk out and fail to return. (MSG)
Matthew 5:10-12	You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom. Not only that--count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens--give a cheer, even!--for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble. (MSG)
Matthew 6:34	Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes. (MSG)
Matthew 12:7	If you had any idea what this Scripture meant-- <i>I prefer a flexible heart to an inflexible ritual</i> --you wouldn't be nipping like this. (MSG)
Matthew 20:26-28	It's not going to be that way with you. Whoever wants to be great must become a servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave. That is what the Son of Man has done: He came to serve, not be served--and then to give away his life in exchange for the many who are held hostage. (MSG)

Reference	Text
Philippians 4:6-7	Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life. (MSG)
Psalms 23:1	The Lord is my Shepherd I lack nothing (NIV)
Psalms 42:11	Why are you down in the dumps, dear soul? Why are you crying the blues? Fix my eyes on God-- soon I'll be praising again. He puts a smile on my face. He's my God. (MSG)
Psalms 46:10	He says, " <i>Be still, and know that I am God;</i> " (NIV)
Psalms 119:95	The wicked lie in ambush to destroy me, but I am only concerned with your plans for me. (MSG)
Romans 5:3,4	There's more to come: We continue to shout our praise even when we're hemmed in with troubles, because we know how troubles can develop passionate patience in us, and how that patience in turn forges the tempered steel of virtue, keeping us alert for whatever God will do next. (MSG)
Romans 8:28:	That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good. (MSG)
Romans 12:1 & 2	So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life--your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life--and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. (MSG)
Romans 12:12	Be cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. (MSG)
Romans 12:17-19	Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. " <i>I'll do the judging,</i> " says God. " <i>I'll take care of it.</i> " (MSG)