

Translations of some Bible verses for your weekly Bible study including “*The Message*” Paraphrase

Compiled by Mark and Marilyn Mohlenbrock and Karenlee Mannerino, CS

For week of February 19 - 25, 2007

(Bible verses are listed alphabetically by Book of the Bible)

NOTE: we have now combined "The Message" and the selected Translations resources into this one resource. The Bible verses are now arranged alphabetically by Book of the Bible.

Amos 4:13

ESV — For behold, he who forms the mountains and creates the wind, and declares to man what is his thought, who makes the morning darkness, and treads on the heights of the earth—the Lord, the God of hosts, is his name!

MESSAGE — Look who's here: Mountain-Shaper! Wind-Maker! He laid out the whole plot before Adam. He brings everything out of nothing, like dawn out of darkness. He strides across the alpine ridges. His name is God, God-of-the-Angel-Armies.

NL — For the LORD is the one who shaped the mountains, stirs up the winds, and reveals his every thought. He turns the light of dawn into darkness and treads the mountains under his feet. The LORD God Almighty is his name!

TEV — God is the one who made the mountains and created the winds. He makes his thoughts known to people; he changes day into night. He walks on the heights of the earth. This is his name: the Lord God Almighty!

Isaiah 26:3

AB — You will guard him *and* keep him in perfect *and* constant peace whose mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because he commits himself to You, leans on You, *and* hopes confidently in You.

ESV — You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

LB — He will keep in perfect peace all those who trust in him, whose thoughts turn often to the Lord!

MESSAGE — People with their minds set on you, you keep completely whole, Steady on their feet, because they keep at it and don't quit.

NEB — Thou dost keep in peace men of constant mind, in peace because they trust in thee.

NL — You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you!

TEV — You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their purpose firm and put their trust in you.

Isaiah 40:25, 26

ESV — To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing.

MESSAGE — "So - who is like me? Who holds a candle to me?" says The Holy. Look at the night

Legend: **AB** – The Amplified Bible; **CEV** – Contemporary English Version; **ESV** – English Standard Version; **GNFMM** – Good News for Modern Man; **GS** – Goodspeed; **JB** – Jerusalem Bible; **LB** – The Living Bible; **MESSAGE** – The Message; **MOFF** – The James Moffatt Translation; **NEB** – The New English Bible; **NI** – New International; **NL** – New Living; **NRSV** – The New Revised Standard Version; **PHIL** – JB Phillips: The New Testament in Modern English; **REVISED** – Revised Standard Version; **TEV** – Today's English Version

skies: Who do you think made all this? Who marches this army of stars out each night, counts them off, calls each by name - so magnificent! so powerful! - and never overlooks a single one?

NEB — To whom then will you liken me, whom set up as my equal? Asks the Holy One 26 Lift up your eyes to the heavens; consider who created it all, led out their host one by one and called them all by their names; through his great might, his might and power, not one is missing.

NL — "To whom will you compare me? Who is my equal?" asks the Holy One. Look up into the heavens. Who created all the stars? He brings them out one after another, calling each by its name. And he counts them to see that none are lost or have strayed away.

TEV — To whom can the holy God be compared? Is there anyone else like him? Look up at the sky! Who created the stars you see? The one who leads them out like an army, he knows how many there are and calls each one by name! His power is so great - not one of them is ever missing!

Isaiah 40:28

ESV — Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

LB — Don't you yet understand? Don't you know by now that the everlasting God, the Creator of the farthest parts of the earth, never grows faint or weary? No one can fathom the depths of his understanding.

MESSAGE — Don't you know anything? Haven't you been listening? God doesn't come and go. God lasts. He's Creator of all you can see or imagine. He doesn't get tired out, doesn't pause to catch his breath. And he knows everything, inside and out.

NEB — Do you not know, have you not heard? The Lord, the everlasting God, creator of the wide world, grows neither weary nor faint; no man can fathom his understanding.

NL — Have you never heard or understood? Don't you know that the LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth? He never grows faint or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding.

TEV — Don't you know? Haven't you heard? The Lord is the everlasting God; he created all the world. He never grows tired or weary. No one understands his thoughts.

Isaiah 58:11

ESV — And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

MESSAGE — I will always show you where to go. I'll give you a full life in the emptiest of places - firm muscles, strong bones. You'll be like a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry.

NL — The LORD will guide you continually, watering your life when you are dry and keeping you healthy, too. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring.

TEV — And I will always guide you and satisfy you with good things. I will keep you strong and well. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water, like a spring of water that never goes dry.

James 1:12

ESV — Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

MESSAGE — Anyone who meets a testing challenge head-on and manages to stick it out is mighty fortunate. For such persons loyally in love with God, the reward is life and more life.

Legend: **AB** – The Amplified Bible; **CEV** – Contemporary English Version; **ESV** – English Standard Version; **GNFMM** – Good News for Modern Man; **GS** – Goodspeed; **JB** – Jerusalem Bible; **LB** – The Living Bible; **MESSAGE** – The Message; **MOFF** – The James Moffatt Translation; **NEB** – The New English Bible; **NI** – New International; **NL** – New Living; **NRSV** – The New Revised Standard Version; **PHIL** – JB Phillips: The New Testament in Modern English; **REVISED** – Revised Standard Version; **TEV** – Today's English Version

NEB — Happy the man who remains steadfast under trial, for having passed that test he will receive for his prize the gift of life promised to those who love God.

NL — God blesses the people who patiently endure testing. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

NRSV — Blessed is anyone who endures temptation. Such a one has stood the test and will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

PHIL — *No temptation comes from God, only highest good* The man who patiently endures the temptations and trials that come to him is the truly happy man. For once his testing is complete he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to all who love him.

TEV — "Testing and Tempting" - Happy is the person who remains faithful under trials, because when he succeeds in passing such a test, he will receive as his reward the life which God has promised to those who love him.

Jeremiah 23:24

ESV — Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord.

MESSAGE — Can anyone hide out in a corner where I can't see him?" God's Decree. "Am I not present everywhere, whether seen or unseen?"

NL — Can anyone hide from me? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?" asks the LORD.

TEV — No one can hide where I cannot see them. Do you not know that I am everywhere in heaven and on earth?

1 Peter 3:8, 9

ESV — Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

MESSAGE — Summing up: Be agreeable, be sympathetic, be loving, be compassionate, be humble. That goes for all of you, no exceptions. No retaliation. No sharp-tongued sarcasm. Instead, bless - that's your job, to bless. You'll be a blessing and also get a blessing.

NL — Finally, all of you should be of one mind, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds. Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate when people say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it.

PHIL — *Be good to each other---and to all men* To sum up, you should all be of one mind living like brothers with true love and sympathy for each other, compassionate and humble. Never pay back a bad turn with a bad turn or an insult with another insult, but on the contrary pay back with good.

TEV — To conclude: you must all have the same attitude and the same feelings; love one another, and be kind and humble with one another. Do not pay back evil with evil or cursing with cursing; instead, pay back with a blessing, because a blessing is what God promised to give you when he called you.

Proverbs 2:6

AB — For the Lord gives skillful *and* godly Wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

ESV — For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

LB — For the Lord grants wisdom! His every word is a treasure of knowledge and understanding.

Legend: **AB** – The Amplified Bible; **CEV** – Contemporary English Version; **ESV** – English Standard Version; **GNFMM** – Good News for Modern Man; **GS** – Goodspeed; **JB** – Jerusalem Bible; **LB** – The Living Bible; **MESSAGE** – The Message; **MOFF** – The James Moffatt Translation; **NEB** – The New English Bible; **NI** – New International; **NL** – New Living; **NRSV** – The New Revised Standard Version; **PHIL** – JB Phillips: The New Testament in Modern English; **REVISED** – Revised Standard Version; **TEV** – Today's English Version

MESSAGE — And here's why: God gives out Wisdom free, is plainspoken in Knowledge and Understanding.

MOFF — for it is the Eternal who supplies wisdom, from him come insight and knowledge.

NEB — for the Lord bestows wisdom and teaches knowledge and understanding.

NL — For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

TEV — It is the Lord who gives wisdom; from him come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:10

ESV — for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

LB — For wisdom and truth will enter the very center of your being, filling your life with joy.

MESSAGE — Lady Wisdom will be your close friend, and Brother Knowledge your pleasant companion.

NL — For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy.

TEV — You will become wise, and your knowledge will give you pleasure.

Proverbs 2:11

ESV — discretion will watch over you, understanding will guard you,

MESSAGE — Good Sense will scout ahead for danger, Insight will keep an eye out for you.

NEB — Prudence will keep watch over you, understanding will guard you,

NL — Wise planning will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.

TEV — Your insight and understanding will protect you.

Proverbs 3:19-23

ESV — The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew. My son, do not lose sight of these—keep sound wisdom and discretion, and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble.

LB — The Lord's wisdom founded the earth; his understanding established all the universe and space. The deep fountains of the earth were broken open by his knowledge, and the skies poured down rain. Have two goals: wisdom---that is, knowing and doing right---and common sense. Don't let them slip away, for they fill you with living energy, and are a feather in your cap. They keep you safe from defeat and disaster and from stumbling off the trail.

MESSAGE — With Lady Wisdom, God formed Earth; with Madame Insight, he raised Heaven. They knew when to signal rivers and springs to the surface, and dew to descend from the night skies. Never Walk Away. Dear friend, guard Clear Thinking and Common Sense with your life; don't for a minute lose sight of them. They'll keep your soul alive and well, they'll keep you fit and attractive. You'll travel safely, you'll neither tire nor trip.

NL — By wisdom the LORD founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens. By his knowledge the deep fountains of the earth burst forth, and the clouds poured down rain. My child, don't lose sight of good planning and insight. Hang on to them, for they fill you with life and bring you honor and respect. They keep you safe on your way and keep your feet from stumbling.

TEV — The Lord created the earth by his wisdom; by his knowledge he set the sky in place. His wisdom caused the rivers to flow and the clouds to give rain to the earth. My child, hold on to your wisdom and insight. Never let them get away from you. They will provide you with life – a pleasant and happy life. You can go safely on your way and never even stumble.

Legend: **AB** – The Amplified Bible; **CEV** – Contemporary English Version; **ESV** – English Standard Version; **GNFMM** – Good News for Modern Man; **GS** – Goodspeed; **JB** – Jerusalem Bible; **LB** – The Living Bible; **MESSAGE** – The Message; **MOFF** – The James Moffatt Translation; **NEB** – The New English Bible; **NI** – New International; **NL** – New Living; **NRSV** – The New Revised Standard Version; **PHIL** – JB Phillips: The New Testament in Modern English; **REVISED** – Revised Standard Version; **TEV** – Today's English Version

Proverbs 16:3

ESV — Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

LB — Commit your work to the Lord, then it will succeed.

MESSAGE — Put God in charge of your work, then what you've planned will take place.

MOFF — Trust your affairs to the Eternal, and your plans will prosper.

NEB — Commit to the Lord all that you do, and your plans will be fulfilled.

NL — Commit your work to the LORD, and then your plans will succeed.

TEV — Ask the Lord to bless your plans, and you will be successful in carrying them out.

Proverbs 16:7

ESV — When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

LB — When a man is trying to please God, God makes even his worst enemies to be at peace with him.

MESSAGE — When God approves of your life, even your enemies will end up shaking your hand.

NEB — When the Lord is pleased with a man and his ways, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.

NL — When the ways of people please the LORD, he makes even their enemies live at peace with them.

TEV — When you please the Lord, you can make your enemies into friends.

Proverbs 16:20

ESV — Whoever gives thought to the word will discover good, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord.

LB — God blesses those who obey him; happy the man who puts his trust in the Lord.

MESSAGE — It pays to take life seriously; things work out when you trust in God.

NL — Those who listen to instruction will prosper; those who trust the LORD will be happy.

TEV — Pay attention to what you are taught, and you will be successful; trust in the Lord and you will be happy.

Proverbs 16:21

ESV — The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness.

MESSAGE — A wise person gets known for insight; gracious words add to one's reputation.

NL — The wise are known for their understanding, and the instruction is appreciated if it's well presented.

TEV — A wise, mature person is known for his understanding. The more pleasant his words, the more persuasive he is.

Psalms 40:5

ESV — You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

LB — O Lord my God, many and many a time you have done great miracles for us, and we are ever in your thoughts. Who else can do such glorious things? No one else can be compared with you. There isn't time to tell of all your wonderful deeds.

MESSAGE — The world's a huge stockpile of God-wonders and God-thoughts. Nothing and no one comes close to you! I start talking about you, telling what I know, and quickly run out of words. Neither

Legend: **AB** – The Amplified Bible; **CEV** – Contemporary English Version; **ESV** – English Standard Version; **GNFMM** – Good News for Modern Man; **GS** – Goodspeed; **JB** – Jerusalem Bible; **LB** – The Living Bible; **MESSAGE** – The Message; **MOFF** – The James Moffatt Translation; **NEB** – The New English Bible; **NI** – New International; **NL** – New Living; **NRSV** – The New Revised Standard Version; **PHIL** – JB Phillips: The New Testament in Modern English; **REVISED** – Revised Standard Version; **TEV** – Today's English Version

numbers nor words account for you.

NEB — Great things thou hast done, O Lord my God; thy wonderful purposes are all for our good; none can compare with thee; I would proclaim them and speak of them, but they are more than I can tell.

NL — O LORD my God, you have done many miracles for us. Your plans for us are too numerous to list. If I tried to recite all your wonderful deeds, I would never come to the end of them.

TEV — You have done many things for us, O Lord our God; there is no one like you! You have made many wonderful plans for us. I could never speak of them all - their number is so great!

Psalm 40:8

ESV — I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.

LB — And I delight to do your will, my God, for your law is written upon my heart!

MESSAGE — And I'm coming to the party you're throwing for me." That's when God's Word entered my life, became part of my very being.

MOFF — to please and serve thee is my joy, thy law lies deep within my heart.

NL — I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your law is written on my heart."

TEV — How I love to do your will, my God! I keep your teaching in my heart."

Psalm 139:1, 3

ESV — O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

LB — O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You chart the path ahead of me, and tell me where to stop and rest. Every moment, you know where I am.

MESSAGE — God, investigate my life; get all the facts firsthand. You know when I leave and when I get back; I'm never out of your sight.

NL — For the choir director: A psalm of David. O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You chart the path ahead of me and tell me where to stop and rest. Every moment you know where I am.

TEV — Lord, you have examined me and you know me. You see me, whether I am working or resting; you know all my actions.

Psalm 139:17, 18

ESV — How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.

LB — How precious it is, Lord, to realize that you are thinking about me constantly! I can't even count how many times a day your thoughts turn towards me.

MESSAGE — Your thoughts - how rare, how beautiful! God, I'll never comprehend them! I couldn't even begin to count them - any more than I could count the sand of the sea. Oh, let me rise in the morning and live always with you!

NEB — How deep I find thy thoughts, O God, how inexhaustible their themes! Can I count them? They outnumber the grains of sand;

NL — How precious are your thoughts about me, O God! They are innumerable! I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up in the morning, you are still with me!

TEV — O God, how difficult I find your thoughts; how many of them there are! If I counted them, they would be more than the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you.

Legend: **AB** – The Amplified Bible; **CEV** – Contemporary English Version; **ESV** – English Standard Version; **GNFMM** – Good News for Modern Man; **GS** – Goodspeed; **JB** – Jerusalem Bible; **LB** – The Living Bible; **MESSAGE** – The Message; **MOFF** – The James Moffatt Translation; **NEB** – The New English Bible; **NI** – New International; **NL** – New Living; **NRSV** – The New Revised Standard Version; **PHIL** – JB Phillips: The New Testament in Modern English; **REVISED** – Revised Standard Version; **TEV** – Today's English Version

Psalm 147:5

ESV — Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

LB — How great he is! His power is absolute! His understanding is unlimited.

MESSAGE — Our Lord is great, with limitless strength; we'll never comprehend what he knows and does

NEB — Mighty is our Lord and great his power, and his wisdom beyond all telling.

NL — How great is our Lord! His power is absolute! His understanding is beyond comprehension!

TEV — Great and mighty is our Lord; his wisdom cannot be measured.

Romans 8:28, 31

ESV — And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

MESSAGE — That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good. So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose?

NL — And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. What can we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

PHIL — Moreover we know that to those who love God, who are called according to his plan, everything that happens fits into a pattern for good. In face of all this, what is there left to say? If God is for us, who can be against us?

TEV — We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose. In view of all this, what can we say? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 12:1

ESV — I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

MESSAGE — 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.

NEB — Therefore, my brothers, I implore you by God's mercy to offer your very selves to him: a living sacrifice, dedicated and fit for his acceptance, the worship offered by mind and heart.

NL — And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice - the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask?

TEV — So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer.

Romans 12:2

ESV — Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

LB — Don't copy the behavior and customs of the world, but be a new and different person with a

Legend: **AB** – The Amplified Bible; **CEV** – Contemporary English Version; **ESV** – English Standard Version; **GNFMM** – Good News for Modern Man; **GS** – Goodspeed; **JB** – Jerusalem Bible; **LB** – The Living Bible; **MESSAGE** – The Message; **MOFF** – The James Moffatt Translation; **NEB** – The New English Bible; **NI** – New International; **NL** – New Living; **NRSV** – The New Revised Standard Version; **PHIL** – JB Phillips: The New Testament in Modern English; **REVISED** – Revised Standard Version; **TEV** – Today's English Version

fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you.

MESSAGE — 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.

NEB — Adapt yourselves no longer to the pattern of this present world, but let your minds be remade and your whole nature thus transformed. Then you will be able to discern the will of God, and to know what is good, acceptable, and perfect.

NIV — Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

NL — Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is.

PHIL — Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God re-make you so that your whole attitude of mind is changed. Thus you will prove in practice that the will of God is good, acceptable to him and perfect.

TEV — Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God -- what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

1 Timothy 1:17

ESV — To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

MESSAGE — Deep honor and bright glory to the King of All Time - One God, Immortal, Invisible, ever and always. Oh, yes!

NL — Glory and honor to God forever and ever. He is the eternal King, the unseen one who never dies; he alone is God. Amen.

PHIL — So to the king of all ages, the immortal, invisible, and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever, amen!

TEV — To the eternal King, immortal and invisible, the only God - to him be honor and glory forever and ever! Amen.