I remain confident of this:  
    I will see the goodness of the Lord  
    in the land of the living.  
14Wait for the Lord;  
    be strong and take heart  
    and wait for the Lord.

*Psalm 27: 13-14*

18This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+1%3A18-25%2CMatthew+2%3A13-23#fen-NIV-23163a)]: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+1%3A18-25%2CMatthew+2%3A13-23#fen-NIV-23164b)] did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+1%3A18-25%2CMatthew+2%3A13-23" \l "fen-NIV-23166c" \o "See footnote c)] because he will save his people from their sins.”

22All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+1%3A18-25%2CMatthew+2%3A13-23" \l "fen-NIV-23168d" \o "See footnote d)] (which means “God with us”).

24When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25

*Matthew 1 18-24*

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

*Isaiah 9: 2-3, 6-7*

Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.

*Mark 13: 33*

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

*John 1:5*