

**Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church**  
**We're glad you're here!**



# Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

## Hymn 91



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## Praise and Prayer Request

**Philippians 1:3-6** I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.



# **Call to Worship**

***Psalm 27:1-5***

**Psalm 27:1-5** Of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

# Higher Ground

## Hymn 469



# Old Rugged Cross

## Hymn 256



# Receiving of the Offering



**2 Corinthians 9:5** So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready **as a willing gift**, not as an exaction.



**GIDEONS**  
INTERNATIONAL

# ***Famous Quote:***

*“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”*

**C. S. LEWIS**

An open book is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with small, dense text, likely a Bible. The background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid in the center of the book's pages.

**Today's Message**  
**“Sifted Like Wheat”**

**Scripture text: Luke 22:24-38**

**Luke 22:31-34** "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have **turned again, strengthen your brothers.**" Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." Jesus said, "I **tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.**"

**A sifting** in coming to the body of Christ!

**Luke 22:31-32** "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might **sift** you like wheat, but **I have prayed for you** that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

In Luke 22:31, the word **sift** is translated from the Greek **siniazō**, meaning 'to sift, shake in a sieve; by **inward agitation to try one's faith to the verge of overthrow.**'

**Note:** that Jesus **did not** pray that Peter would escape this intense shaking. What did He pray for?

He prayed that his faith would not fail in the process ... Satan had requested permission to shake Simon Peter so severely that he would lose his faith, **but God had a different purpose for the shaking.** He allowed the enemy to shake everything in Simon Peter that needed to be shaken.

**There are 5 purposes for shaking an object:**

- 1. To bring it closer to its foundation.**
- 2. To remove what is dead.**
- 3. To harvest what is ripe.**
- 4. To awaken it.**
- 5. To unify or mix together so it can not longer be separated.**

As a result of this tremendous shaking, **all of Simon Peter's self-confidence would be gone, and all that would remain was God's sure foundation.**

**He would awaken his true condition, the dead would be removed and the ripe fruit harvested, bringing him closer to his true foundation.**

**He would no longer function independently but would be interdependent on the Lord.**

This is why I believe a shaking in coming to the Church, the professing Body of Christ.

**1 Peter 4:14-18** If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

The word *you* in Luke 22:31 is plural; **Satan asked to have all the disciples so he might sift them like wheat.** These men had been with Jesus in His trials (Luke 22:28), and He would not forsake them in their trials. This was both a warning and an encouragement to Peter and the other men, and **our Lord's prayers were answered.** Peter's courage failed but not his faith; **he was restored to fellowship with Christ** and was greatly used to strengthen God's people.

**Luke 22:28** "You are those who have stayed with me in my trials,

**Peter's self-confident boasting is a warning to us that none of us really knows his own heart and that we can fail in the point of our greatest strength.**

**Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?**

**Genesis 6:5-6 The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.**

Abraham's greatest strength was his faith, and yet his faith failed him when he went down to Egypt and lied about Sarah (Gen. 12:10–13:4).

**Genesis 12:11-13** When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, "I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance, and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me, but they will let you live. **Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake.**"

**Moses' strength was in his meekness** (Num. 12:3), yet he lost his temper, spoke rashly with his lips, and was not allowed to enter Canaan (Num. 20).

**Numbers 20:6-8** Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And **the glory of the LORD appeared to them**, and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "**Take the staff**, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and **tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water**. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle."

**Numbers 20:10-12** Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?" And **Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice**, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock. And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."

**Out of all the people of Israel that left Egypt, only 2 over the age of 40 entered the Promise Land.**

**1Corinthians 10:1-5** For I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and **the Rock was Christ.**

Nevertheless, with **most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.**

**1Corinthians 10:6-12** Now these things took place as **examples for us**, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." **We must not indulge in sexual immorality** as some of them did, and **twenty-three thousand fell in a single day**. **We must not put Christ to the test**, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, **nor grumble**, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. **Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.**

# What A Friend We have in Jesus

## Hymn 466

