

Scriptures June 7, 2026

Modern Testimony *based on Psalm 50*

One: The Voice which speaks and confronts the whole world is that of the Holy One, the God of gods. From the time the sun rises until after it sets, the dazzling beauty of God shines out.

Many: When God comes, it is not always in silence; it may be like a consuming fire or fierce storm. God's call is heard among the distant stars, and on earth we are summoned to give account.

God gathers together the true believers, those who keep faith at much cost. The whole universe shall announce justice, for God who has the final word says:

One: *"I will speak against you, my people.*

I your God will be a prosecution witness.

*It is not what you do at church that's wrong,
your worship is a good attempt.*

*It is what you do outside that upsets me,
how you exploit the land and its creatures.*

*For every animal in the bush is mine,
and the cattle on a thousand hills.*

*I know every bird in the mountains
and everything that moves on the plains.*

Get this, you who would limit me to pious thoughts:

I could put you through the shredder!

Let all you do each day be a thanksgiving;

get things right and you will see my salvation!"

~silence is kept~

Ancient Testimony

Genesis 12:1-9 NRSV
Journey in the promise

The Call of Abram

12 Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’^[a]

⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak^[b] of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, ‘To your offspring^[c] I will give this land.’ So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸ From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. ⁹ And Abram journeyed on by stages towards the Negeb.

Ancient Testimony Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Christ heals a woman and raises a girl

The Calling of Matthew

⁹ As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner^[a] in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting^[b] with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' ¹² But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

Matthew 9:18-26 NRSV

A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed

¹⁸ While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue^[a] came in and knelt before him, saying, 'My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.' ¹⁹ And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰ Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹ for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.' ²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well. ²³ When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute-players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴ he said, 'Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶ And the report of this spread throughout that district.