



Cravens Pillar 30, Blog 3

## Bible Readings for Funerals

Bible readings and prayers are read at both Christian and non-religious funerals and can be an important part of the service.

These readings help us to acknowledge the loss of someone, to remember them, to pay respects to them, and to bring comfort to those that are mourning.

Selecting bible readings and prayers for a service can be difficult, so we have collated some of the most popular ones to help you decide.



### Popular Bible Readings

#### **Romans 8:35, 37- 39**

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### **Job 19:23-27**

Oh, that my words were written!

Oh, that they were inscribed in a book!

That they were engraved on a rock

With an iron pen and lead, forever!

For I know that my Redeemer lives,

And He shall stand at last on the earth;

And after my skin is destroyed, this I know,  
That in my flesh I shall see God,  
Whom I shall see for myself,  
And my eyes shall behold, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!

**John 14:1-3**

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-4**

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance...

**Short Bible Readings**

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-4**

To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven; A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted.

**Matthew 5:4**

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**Psalms 34:18**

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

**Romans 8:28**

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

**Long Bible Readings**

**Revelation 21:1-7**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also, he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty, I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

### **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

### **Psalm 46**

God is our hope and strength,

a very present help in trouble.

Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea;

Though the waters thereof rage and swell,  
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.

There is a river, the streams whereof make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most Highest.

God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed;

God shall help her, and that right early.

Be still then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations, and I will be exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

If you are still unsure about which bible readings or funeral prayers to select for the service, ask the funeral directors for their recommendations.

With over 100 years of experience in arranging funerals, Craven Funeral Directors is the largest independent funeral provider in Merseyside and North Cheshire. For expert advice on planning a funeral service, please get in touch with our team on 0151 228 3900.