

2019

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

Matthew 22.37-40



"The pursuit of the presence of God has been without exception or exaggeration, the prevailing passion and the common purpose of all the saints in every generation since the time of Christ...."



".... study their lives and you will quickly discover that the universal, all-consuming motivation which fuelled everything else they did was a desire for the presence of God."

Pete Grieg

Holy - 'qadosh' = literally 'set apart for a special purpose



One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret [Galilee],[a] the people were crowding round him and listening to the word of God.... When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch..... When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break....

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!' Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.' So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Luke

But when Christ came as high priest ... he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, so obtaining eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls ... sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God...

...cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance — now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant."

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5.21



"But we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, so that through God's grace he should die for everyone. ...for Jesus is the one who leads them to salvation. He purifies people from their sins, and both he and those who are made pure all have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his family...

....Jesus himself became like them and shared their human nature. He did this so that through his death he might destroy the Devil, who has the power over death, and in this way set free those who were slaves all their lives because of their fear of death. And now he can help those who are tempted, because he himself was tempted and suffered."

Hebrews 2.9, 10-11, 14b-15, 18