

Colossians 3:16

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another
in all wisdom,
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*



Final Devotional From Pastor Robert

I started preparing these three-times-a-week devotionals when we closed in person worship in March 2020. In the amazing providence of God this is devotional number 200. This will be my final devotional. For the next two weeks the Serve team will be preparing the devotionals leading up to our two Serve weekends.

It seemed appropriate to me to make my final devotional about Jesus as the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. Jesus us Lord of all our beginnings and all our endings. To Him belongs all the glory, honor and praise.

Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:11 *He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.*

Isaiah 44:6 *Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.*

Isaiah 46:9-10 *Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.'*

Matthew 18:20 *"Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

John 1:1-2 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.*

Romans 11:36 *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever.*

Colossians 1:17-18 *And he [Jesus] is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*

Hebrews 13:8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

Revelation 1:8 *"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."*

Revelation 1:17 *When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades."*

Revelation 21:6 *And 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 from the spring of the water of life without payment."*

Revelation 22:1 *I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.*

Song

Psalm 59:16 *But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.*

[You can Google the hymn to hear it if you would like to sing along.]

Of the Father's Love Begotten

(also to tune of Guide Me, Great Jehovah)

Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are and have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.

This is He whom they in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word;
Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
All dominions, bow before Him,
And extol our Lord and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.

Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, with Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be;
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore.

Prayer

II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Lord Jesus, when we pray to you who is the Alpha and the Omega, we are praying to the one who is from everlasting to everlasting, the one who is from before all time and endures to the end of eternity. You are the creator and sustainer, the source of all life and all that is in life. You made everything from nothing and everything is yours. You know the beginning of all things and the end. You number all our days. You knew us before we were conceived and you know our thoughts before we think them. Nothing is hidden from your eyes.

You are the one who was and is and is to come. You are the all-sufficient Lord of the universe who will bring to completion all that you have begun. You are the author and finisher of our faith. You are the potter and we are the clay, in you we live and move and have our being.

Lord Jesus, all these things are true and yet they are too great for us, we cannot begin to fathom who you are and what you are like. Eternity will not be long enough for us to plumb the depths of the riches of your nature and character and grace toward us.

Enable us to live each of our days in the light and awareness of all that these truths mean for us as we face the challenges and difficulties and mysterious hardships of life. May your providence and sovereignty and eternal power make less fearful and ever sweeter every moment of our life, and fill us with peace and contentment that you only give good things and you only do good things, and your purposes are always good.

To you belongs all the glory and power and honor, both now and forever. Amen and Amen.