

# Ten Verses for Our Bathroom Mirrors

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## Introduction.

- A. The assembly of the saints is certainly necessary to the salvation of the Christian. We are commanded to be here by God, and we gain tremendous spiritual nourishment from being here. As important as the assembly is, though, the bulk of our Christian lives does not take place inside this building. We don't get to spend every hour of every day gathered with other Christians, or even by ourselves, praying and meditating on God's word.
- B. Because this is true, one of the constant struggles of our walk with God is keeping the world and its concerns from taking over our lives. There are many techniques that God's people use in this struggle. Some people set aside time for God even outside of the assembly. They partition off half an hour or an hour every day and devote that time to the Lord. If we can find a way to do that in our lives, folks, that's wonderful.
- C. This evening, though, I want us to look at the opposite approach: keeping the world at bay by injecting godly thoughts even into non-devotional times. For example, a time we might do this is the time we spend driving to work every morning. Just about all of us who have a job drive to work, and in Chicagoland, some of those commutes can be pretty impressive. It's time we have to spend in the car because of our jobs, and there's no way around it. However, we can use that worldly time to bring God into our lives. We can listen to the Bible or sermons on CD, we can pray, we can meditate, or we can sing. It's a way we can re-center ourselves.
- D. Another way to keep godly things on our mind is to jot down a scripture on an index card and stick it on the bathroom mirror. That way, as we're shaving or putting on makeup in the morning, we see the verse, and it gets us to thinking about something spiritual. It doesn't have to be on the mirror, either. It can be on the refrigerator, taped to our computer monitor at work, or anywhere we look at a lot. It's a relatively low-effort way to put some spirituality back in our day. This is something we can all stand to benefit from, so even though there are thousands of Scriptures to choose from, let's look at ten verses for our bathroom mirrors.

## I. About God.

- A. Let's begin this list this evening by looking at five verses that tell us something important and memorable about God. The first verse in this category is **Romans 1:20**. This verse is significant because it describes some of the most significant attributes of God and sets out the response that those attributes demand from us. Paul begins in this verse by conceding that we cannot see God. However, we can see what He has made, and in what God has made, we recognize His eternal power because only the highest power imaginable could create the universe. We also see His Godhead, in that only someone with the mind of God is smart enough to create the endless complexity we see around us. These things are so obvious that any one who fails to recognize God as Creator is without excuse. As a result, whenever we encounter the glories of God's creation, it should cause us to honor Him, and it should remind us that we are obliged to serve Him.
- B. However, God is not some stern, aloof, uncaring monarch who wants nothing to do with us. We see an equally important attribute of God highlighted in **1 John 3:1**—His love.
  1. God's love for us is so great that He has taken us into a family relationship with Him. He is our King, yes. He is the Ruler to whom we owe obedience, but He is also our Father. We are not just peasants; we are His children, those dearest and closest to His heart. We have been adopted as royalty.
  2. Here's how this should change our lives. Too often, our days are filled with people who want to tear us down. There may be kids at school who insult us and call us names. There may be a boss at work who chews us out for no reason. There may even be people in our homes who love to make us feel about an inch tall. John 3:1 is the answer to all of those people. No matter what they say, they can't make us any less the children of God, and that He loves us with an everlasting love. That's who we are.
- C. We see a further expression of God's love for us in **Psalms 103:12-13**, which describes the infinite forgiveness of God. Because of this verse, God's creation speaks to us not just of His power, but of His mercy. Sometime when you're out in the country somewhere at night, just stop and look straight up at the night sky. Look at the stars, star after star after star, as far as we can see, and even beyond. Do we see a ceiling on the heavens? Do we see any limit? That infinite distance is the physical expression of the lovingkindness of God. God's willingness to forgive us when we sin exceeds our comprehension. How far is east from west? Can we ever get to a point where there isn't something to the east of us? That infinite distance is how far away God takes our transgressions. We need to remember that the next time the devil starts whispering in our ears. When we sin, Satan loves to try to follow up on his victory, to convince us that we're just bad people and we have no hope of ever being good. That's just not true. No matter what we've done, God through Christ is able to forgive us and to cleanse us of all our unrighteousness forever. All of us can be purified in Him.
- D. But that's not all. Jesus assures us of more than just forgiveness in **Matthew 28:20**. He tells His apostles, and us too, that He is with us always. "Always" is a word that gets thrown around a lot. Lots of love songs

have been written about “always loving you.” Wal-Mart used to have a big ad campaign built around the word “always.” The difference between those promises and what Jesus tells us is that Jesus is going to do it. Jesus will never leave us. Jesus will never let us down. He is with us always. That means that no matter how alone and friendless we may feel in this world, we’ve always got at least one friend. We can always trust in Jesus to be there for us, to carry us through the rough spots, and to help us keep going.

- E. This is true both in our lives and after our lives are over, because when Jesus says “always,” He means it. Look at His promise in **John 14:1-3**. He gives us His word that we can have a dwelling place in heaven with Him. He’s preparing an eternal home for us right now, and when it’s ready, He’ll come and get us, and then, where He is, this amazing and wonderful Lord to whom we owe everything, we get to be there too forever. That’s what our lives are about. No matter what happens to us, we don’t have to be concerned. Our lives, no matter how comfortable they may be, are just wandering on the earth until we get to go home.

## II. About Us.

- A. God’s word doesn’t just contain truths for us about God, though; it also contains a lot of mirror-worthy truths about us. The first of these that we’re going to look at is **Romans 12:1-2**.
  - 1. In these two verses, Paul defines what we should do with our lives. First, he calls us to recognize that worship isn’t just something we do in the church building; it’s something we do with our lives. If we want to please God, we have to present our bodies to Him to do His work. Second, he tells us how we need to think. We can’t think like the world anymore. Instead, we must renew our minds into the service of God and allow that renewal to transform us. Only then can we actually live the way that God wants us to live.
  - 2. This is a good bathroom-mirror verse because if we’re thinking about it, it calls us to check our actions and our thoughts all day long. Every time we start to do something, this verse tells us that we need to ask, “When I’m doing this, am I presenting my body to God as a living sacrifice, or am I giving my body to the devil for him to use?” It makes us make sure that our conduct measures up. Also, it requires us to keep tabs on the way our mind works. It makes us ask, “Is the way that I think more like the way the world thinks, or is it more like the way God wants me to think? Is my thinking becoming more like the world’s, or more like God’s?” Basically, this verse makes us keep spiritual score in our battle against sin.
- B. Paul is also responsible for reminding us of one of our most important tools in **Acts 20:32**. Here, he commends the Ephesian elders to the word of the grace of God. He does so for two reasons: first, because it is able to build them up; second, because it is able to give them an inheritance. This verse is a great reminder of why we need to study the Bible, not just during services or as we’re filling out our lesson books, but all the time. A genuine immersion in God’s word will do so much to make us better Christians because it inevitably changes the way we think and the way we live. More than that, though, knowing and loving God’s word is the only way we can get to heaven. It’s the key that unlocks our eternal inheritance. We need to be studying.
- C. However, all of the studying we do has the greatest effect on our lives if we follow the teaching of **Philippians 4:8**. It tells us to take the good and wholesome ideas that we come into contact with and meditate only on them. It’s a simple concept, but it can change so much in our lives if we apply it.
  - 1. First, it really makes our Bible study come to life. The Bible is not a comic strip. If we want to get the most out of our study, we have to learn to meditate on what we’ve read. We can go through this meditation process at any time, in the shower, in the car, right before bed, but only by thinking deeply about what God is telling us can we best figure out what he’s saying and how to apply it to our lives.
  - 2. Second, this verse is really a great way for dealing with sin in our lives. James 1 tells us that sin always arises from lust, that is, that before we transgress God’s law, we’ve spent some time dwelling on what we think we’ll get out of the transgression. We’ve been thinking about evil things instead of good things. By contrast, if we discipline ourselves to meditate only on godliness, sin never has a chance to take root.
- D. Here’s yet another great thought from Paul: **Romans 8:18**, which tells us that earthly suffering is not worthy to be compared to the glory of heaven. Paul was certainly familiar with the concept of suffering. In 2 Corinthians 11, we see a massive list of everything Paul went through for the gospel’s sake: everything from being stoned to being shipwrecked. Worse still, this list only dates from about halfway through Paul’s ministry. He went through many more ordeals that were not recorded for us, including his execution. Despite experiencing these things, which would induce just about anyone to pack up and go home, Paul says that heaven is incomparably greater. Brethren, if that was true for Paul, who went through just about every kind of suffering the world has to offer, then it’s true for us too. Sure, the hard times we go through may seem impressive to us here, but in heaven, we won’t even consider them as worth remembering.
- E. Because Paul was such a mirror-worthy writer, let’s conclude our list with **2 Corinthians 5:10**. Here, Paul tells us that we will all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, give an account of what we have done, and be judged accordingly. The application is obvious. We need to live our lives with judgment in mind, and we need to discipline our actions so that when we stand before God, we will not be ashamed of what we’ve done.

**Conclusion.** If you’re unprepared for the judgment, get your life right with God now.