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Ephesians 6:1-3 (NIV) – Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" – which is the first commandment with a promise – "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth".

"This is not a popular doctrine in our modern world, where youth is worshiped and old age dreaded or despised. The result is the folly by which men or women strive to remain eternally youthful, only to find it an impossible task" – *R. Alan Cole*

Proverbs 16:31 (NIV) – "Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness".

Proverbs 1:8-9 (NIV) – "Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck".

Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV) – "My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding – indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God".

Ephesians 1:4-8a (NIV) - "For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will – to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely give us in the One He loves. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us".

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"lavished" = Greek *perisseuo* - "to abound; to be over and above; to exceed the ordinary"

John 6:12-13 (NIV) – When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are <u>left over</u>. Let nothing be wasted". So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves <u>left over</u> by those who had eaten

Ephesians 6:10-17 (NIV) – Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

"Sugar-coated preaching leads to truth decay" - Unknown

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Ephesians 1:18-21 (NIV) - "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come".

Ephesians 2:6-7 (NIV) – "And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus".

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) - "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do".

Ephesians 3:16-21 (NIV) - "I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen".

"immeasurable more" = Greek huperekperisseuo – "superabundantly"