

Moses

"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun, who rides on the heavens to help you and on the clouds in his majesty. The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemy before you, saying, 'Destroy him!' So Israel will live in safety alone; Jacob's spring is secure in a land of grain and new wine, where the heavens drop dew. Blessed are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD? He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you, and you will trample down their high places."... And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said.

Deuteronomy 33:26-29, 34:5

Write a description of God and a message of hope.

Stephen

"You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did. Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become; you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him. But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, *"Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."* But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse. When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul. They went on stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, *"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!"* Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, *"Lord, do not hold this sin against them!"* Having said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 7:51-60

Write a confrontation to faithlessness.

Joshua

"Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."... *"Now therefore, put away the foreign gods which are in your midst, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel."* The people said to Joshua, *"We will serve the LORD our God and we will obey His voice."* So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God; and he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD. Joshua said to all the people, *"Behold, this stone shall be for a witness against us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD which He spoke to us; thus it shall be for a witness against you, so that you do not deny your God."* Then Joshua dismissed the people, each to his inheritance. It came about after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being one hundred and ten years old.

Joshua 24:14-15, 23-29

Write a challenge to be fully devoted to the LORD.

Think about them as you respond to the writing prompts.

These men spoke and acted courageously in the face of hardship and great spiritual need. Is there someone in your life who may need to hear how great God is? Or how serious sin is? Or be challenged to devote themselves fully to the Lord?

Use these men's dying words as inspiration to form your own "final words."

In Moses' final speech, He describes God poetically and gives hope to the people He would be leaving behind after his death. If you were in a similar situation what would your final words be? How would you describe God? What's the greatest encouragement you could give?

Read the final recorded words spoken by three notable Bible characters.

AUGUST 2022: FINAL WORDS

I REJOICE AT THY WORD

FINAL WORDS IN HYMNS

MORE LOVE TO THEE

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise, this be the parting cry My heart shall raise:
This still its prayer shall be: *"More love, O Christ, to Thee."*

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death, and praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath,
and say when the deathdew lies cold on my brow: *"If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."*

ALL THE WAY MY SAVIOR LEADS ME

When my spirit - clothed immortal - wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages: *"Jesus led me all the way."*

WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: *"May Jesus Christ be praised!"*
Be this th'eternal song Thro' all the ages long: *"May Jesus Christ be praised!"*

10,000 REASONS

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come,
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending. Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

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