



The Bible Banner

June 2021



Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

An ingenious teenager, tired of reading bedtime stories to his little sister, decided to record several of her favorite stories on tape. He told her, "Now you can hear your stories anytime you want. Isn't that great?" She looked at the machine for a moment and then replied, "No. It *hasn't got a lap.*"

The truth is, we all need a "lap;" we all need the closeness of a tender loving relationship with Jesus. Just hearing the stories of the Bible is nice, but the Bible makes clear the importance of a relationship with Jesus, "*And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*" John 17:3 Thankfully, our God is ready and waiting for a relationship if we are willing, for the promise of Deuteronomy 33:27 is "*The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms:*"

EASY HOMEMADE DEODORANT

Several people have tried this deodorant, and each time I get fabulous reports like, "I can go two days without a shower!"

Refrigerated Variety: 3 Tbsp coconut oil, softened
2 Tbsp starch of your choice, corn or arrowroot powder
2 Tbsp baking soda

You may add your favorite essential oil if desired.

Mix together and place in a cupcake liner or empty deodorant container. Keep refrigerated or in a cool place.

Room Temperature Variety

1 heaped Tbsp. beeswax (The pellets are easy for measuring and melt down quickly)
2 1/2 Tbsp. coconut oil
Your favorite essential oil, if desired (8-10 drops)
1/8 cup arrowroot powder
1/8 cup baking soda

Add all liquid ingredients to a small pot and put it on low heat on your stove. Stir every once in a while, until everything is melted (the beeswax takes the longest, but it's still within a couple minutes). Then stir well to incorporate the powders into the mixture so that it is nice and smooth. It will be a slightly thick, creamy colored liquid. Mix together and place in a cupcake liner or empty deodorant container.

For more Recipes for Natural Personal Care Products visit <http://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/replacement-chemicals.php>



PROFITABLE TRADITIONS

Cultivate Biblical Knowledge – Put several biblical objects/items in a bag. Have someone draw one item out of the bag and have the group think of as many Bible stories in which the object is used as they can.

(Example: A lion—Daniel in the lions' den, creation, Noah's ark, Daniel's dream, etc.) To make this more of a challenge for youth or adults, you may have the people actually find the texts for the stories in the Bible.

(Example: Daniel 6:1; Genesis 1:24, 25; Genesis 7:1-3; Daniel 7:4, etc.)

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Or visit us at: www.biblepicturepathways.com or www.swiftrunnerministries.com

Quotable Quotes

"Often your mind may be clouded because of pain. Then do not try to think. You know that Jesus loves you. He understands your weakness. You may do His will by simply resting in His arms." {Ministry of Healing, pg. 251.5}



A Few Lines...

Editor's Note and Study to Show Thyself Approved

The solemnity of the summing up of a whole life in a simple statement forcibly struck my mind as, recently, I was reading through the books of Kings and Chronicles. For example, 2 Chronicles 14:2 says, *"And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God."* But this is contrasted with kings like Nadab the son of Jeroboam, of whom it says *"And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin."* 1 Kings 15:26

Ultimately, there is a huge eternal difference between *"did...right"* and *"did evil."*

But there is also a comparison of heart—"perfect" or "not perfect." For example, 1 Kings 15:3 describes Jeroboam thus, *"And he walked in all the sins of his father, which he had done before him: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father."* We also find that David prayed for his son, *"And give unto Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep thy commandments, thy testimonies, and thy statutes, and to do all these things..."* 1 Chronicles 29:19 And yet, I believe "the heart" is used as a measurement, not necessarily of perfect knowledge or even of perfect accomplishment (especially as it pertains to others), but of willingness and sincerity to follow God's way to the best of your ability. For example, 1 Chr. 29:9 says *"they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD..."* but 2 Chronicles 15:17 says, *"But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days."*

In addition, 2 Chronicles 25:2 says of Amaziah *"And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart."* Not surprisingly, because of the lack of sincerity of heart with Amaziah, later (in 2 Chronicles 25:14) we see him turn aside to the worshiping of false gods. The heart is a measure of our living connection with God.



Besides the heart, there is something else that God says he uses to judge his people—the *"reins,"* which directly translated, is the kidneys. *"I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."*

Jeremiah 17:10 The word *"reins,"* or *"renes"* in Latin, is where we get our word *"renal"* as in *"renal failure"* or kidney failure from. In the Greek, the word for kidneys is *"nephros"*. Again, this is used in the medical field for kidneys, as in *"nephritis"* or inflammation of the kidneys. We find it used in Rev. 2:23 where Jesus says, *"all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works."*

Let's look at what the *"works"* of the kidneys are physically. Essentially, the kidneys *"decide"* what the body needs to keep, and what it needs to get rid of. *"The purpose of the renal system is to eliminate wastes from the body, regulate blood volume and pressure, control levels of electrolytes and metabolites, and regulate blood pH."* {Boundless Anatomy and Physiology, pg. 1359}

I find the description *"to eliminate wastes"* interesting in light of the description of Asa. Besides a description of his heart and telling he did that which was right, 1 Kings 15:11-14 tells what he *"eliminated,"* or removed. *"And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father. And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made. And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove; and Asa destroyed her idol, and burnt it by the brook Kidron. But the high places were not removed: nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days."* Indeed, God is looking to see if we are eliminating sin in our lives. He is also looking to see if we have proper balance of the *"water"* of the word (Eph. 5:26), the covenant of *"salt"* which is an electrolyte (Numbers 18:19) and even temperance in diet since

"Urine pH is often influenced by diet." {Boundless A&P, pg. 1387}

While it is evident that God has good reasons (including medical missionary ones) for using the word for kidneys, it is also evident that this word has a spiritual application which seems to be quite like a *"good conscience"*. For example, Psalm 16:7 says *"I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons."* Psalm 73:21 follows with *"Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins."* But exactly what God is looking for is revealed in Isaiah 11:5, which is a prophecy of Christ. It states, *"And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."* The broad spectrum of meaning in the word translated faithfulness is demonstrated in the 1549 Matthew's Bible which reads *"Ryghteousnesse shalbe þe gyrdle of his loynes, truthe & faythfulnesse, the gyrdynge vp of hys raynes."* When God tries the reins, He is checking to see if our conscience has been blunted by neglect of truth or if we have truth, faithfulness, and moral fidelity as the *"girdle of our reins."*

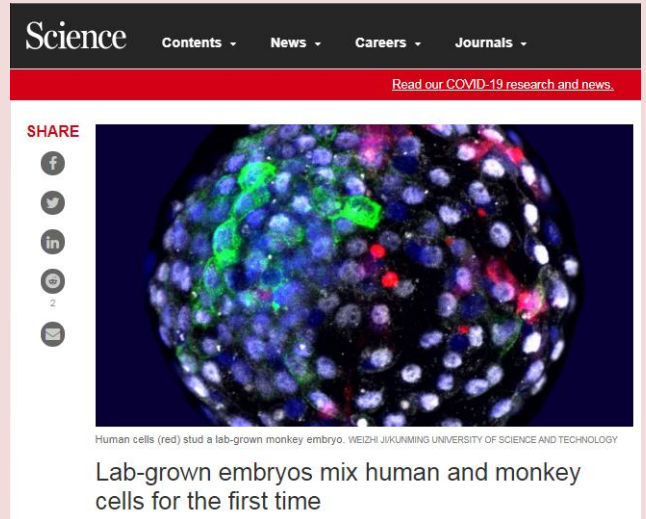
Today, when *"the hour of his [God's] judgment is come"* (Rev. 14:7), God is looking to see who will serve him with all sincerity of heart, and who in truth and faithfulness will have reins! *"a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men."* (Acts 24:16) God's everlasting arms encircle the soul that turns to Him for aid. He is looking to see who will take the opportunity to cooperate with One who knows no failure. He is looking for a people that will not do that which is evil, but through the power of Christ, will do that which is *"right in the eyes of the LORD."* Consider, if your life were summed up in a few lines how would they read?



Prophetic News Notes —Amalgamation of Man and Beast

*“Scientists have successfully grown monkey embryos containing human cells for the first time — the latest milestone in a rapidly advancing field that has drawn ethical questions.”*¹ And rightly so, for **this step is causing confusion of “kinds”**. When God created man and beast, He made each to reproduce after its kind. Genesis 1:24-27 records, *“And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature **after his kind**, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth **after his kind**: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth **after his kind**, and cattle **after their kind**, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth **after his kind**: and God saw that it was good.*

And God said, **Let us make man in our image, after our likeness**: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, **in the image of God created he him**; male and female created he them.” We also see that, unlike the other animals, man was made in the image of God. **This step thus defaces the image of God**. For these two reasons genetically mixing man and animal is outside of God’s order, no matter the reason. In this case, *“researchers hope that some human–animal hybrids — known as chimaeras — could provide better models in which to test drugs, and be used to grow human organs for transplants.”*¹



The now feasible “success” in this field is rather ominous. *“In the work, published on 15 April in Cell, the team injected monkey embryos with human stem cells and watched them develop. They observed human and monkey cells divide and grow together in a dish, with at least 3 embryos surviving to 19 days after fertilization. ‘The overall message is that every embryo contained human cells that proliferate and differentiate to a different extent,’ says Juan Carlos Izpisua Belmonte, a developmental biologist at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, California, and one of the researchers who led the work.”*¹

Portentous is the fact that *“the researchers found a high number of human cells in the chimeric embryos that survived. On average, 3% to 4% of the cells in the embryos were human, and in one embryo, up to 7% were. ‘When we observed human cells were alive in monkey embryos, that was amazing,’ Tao Tan, a principal investigator at the State Key Laboratory of Primate Biomedical Research and Kunming University of Science and Technology in Yunnan, China, and one of the paper’s lead authors, told STAT.”*²

Rightly, *“this type of scientific work and the possibilities it opens up raises serious questions for some ethicists. The biggest concern, they said, is that someone could try to take this work further and attempt to make a baby out of an embryo made this way. Specifically, the critics worry that human cells could become part of the developing brain of such an embryo — and of the brain of the resulting animal.”*³

*“Paul Knoepfler, a stem cell scientist and professor at the UC Davis School of Medicine... said the research posed a host of other questions as well. ‘Is there a point at which a chimera is “too human”? For instance, what if a monkey-human chimera ended up being more human than monkey, should special rules apply?’ he asked. ‘What if there are many human cells in the developing brain of a chimera?’”*²

*“Should it be regulated as human because it has a significant proportion of human cells in it? Or should it be regulated just as an animal? Or something else?” Rice University’s Matthews said. ‘At what point are you taking something and using it for organs when it actually is starting to think and have logic?’”*³

Christians should recognize that this will blur the line where we are commanded by God not to kill/murder. (Exodus 20:13, Matt. 19:18)

Indeed also, *“The issue of the brain merits special consideration, in part because many consider the brain the organ that makes humans unique.”*² In fact, the moral function of man’s brain is part of what makes us *“in the image of God.”*

No wonder one 19th century author wrote, *“But if there was one sin above another which called for the destruction of the race by the flood, it was the base crime of amalgamation of man and beast which defaced the image of God, and caused confusion everywhere.”*⁴

Could it be that mankind is again about to wear out the Divine patience and swift destruction is so to come to our planet again?
Are you ready?

1-- <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-01001-2> 2-- <https://www.statnews.com/2021/04/15/international-team-creates-first-chimeric-human-monkey-embryos/> 3-- <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2021/04/15/987164563/scientists-create-early-embryos-that-are-part-human-part-monkey> 4-- Spiritual Gifts, vol. 3, p. 64
Screenshot-- <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2021/04/lab-grown-embryos-mix-human-and-monkey-cells-first-time>



The Inconvenience of Environmental “Illness”, Part 2--MCS

As the cashier rang up our order, I noticed surgical type gloves on her hands. They were for “a skin allergy” she told me. “I had to move to another seat in church because somebody close to me was wearing strong perfume, and it was giving me a headache,” another woman revealed.

While these ladies are not necessarily sufferers of multiple chemical sensitivity or MCS, according to a March 2018 article published in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine the *“prevalence of diagnosed MCS has increased over 300%, and self-reported chemical sensitivity over 200%, in the past decade.”*¹

MCS, also sometimes known as “environmental illness” or “sick building syndrome” can include a wide range of symptoms. *“They include headache, fatigue, dizziness, nausea, congestion, itching, sneezing, sore throat, chest pain, changes in heart rhythm, breathing problems, muscle pain or stiffness, skin rash, diarrhea, bloating, gas, confusion, trouble concentrating, memory problems, and mood changes.”*² From headaches, to rashes, boils, and throat swelling from chemicals, our own family has experienced enough of these symptoms through the years to recognize that chemical sensitivity can be a real problem, but I had no idea how common the problem is becoming.

In 2016, a survey among a representative sample of adult Americans found *“A national prevalence of 12.8% medically diagnosed MCS, 25.9% self-reported chemical sensitivity, and 27.5% either or both...”*¹ In addition, *“for 76.0% of people with MCS, the severity of these health problems was potentially disabling according to the criterion of the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA).”*¹



An extreme, but sad story tells of a woman who was a singer with MCS (and finally also EHS) that died after spending her life trying to maintain a level of functionality, searching for a safe place to live. (Some of those with MCS even have to sleep outside in screened in shelters to avoid chemicals.) Finally, she found a suitable place to live in a porcelain trailer built for those with MCS, but sadly, due to zoning rules, she got in trouble and had to move again. This lady underwent a very long list of “health” protocols, some of them quite bizarre, but to no avail.³

A happier story of another lady of whom it is said, *“a minute amount of perfume sends her into a week-long poison reaction.”* This lady (pictured) convinced the local hair dresser, not to wear chemicals on her hair cutting day and to cut her hair outside. But although this lady lives in a small town with many kind people, she still has to wear a respirator in order to go to the grocery store.⁴

Others are so sensitive their spouse has to shop for them—they cannot go into town at all. One lady was so sensitive to formaldehyde that if her husband encountered someone at a meeting who had worked with formaldehyde-laden products, he has to stay in their seclusion room until the smell dissipates and he can be around his wife again.⁵

*“Possible triggers that set off people’s symptoms vary a lot, too. They include tobacco smoke, auto exhaust, perfume, insecticide, new carpet, chlorine, and more.”*²

One study of *“one hundred thirty five patients (75% females)”* who *“were evaluated for complaints of often disabling sensitivity to small concentrations of multiple chemicals after chemical exposure in the recent or distant past....”* demonstrated that MCS is not just a mental problem. It found that among *“patients who present with complaints of MCS”* when *“a comprehensive objective evaluation... is performed, a high percentage will be shown to have abnormal test results. This is true if the central and peripheral nervous systems as well as pulmonary and immune functions are tested... By contrast, CBC and blood chemistry are usually within normal limits.”*⁶

Thankfully, there is some good news. God built our liver to filter out toxic chemicals (at least in small amounts). And He made it so, of all the internal organs, the liver is most able to regenerate. In fact, *“the liver can regenerate after either surgical removal or chemical injury. It is known that as little as 51% of the original liver mass can regenerate back to its full size.”*⁷ This means if you can “empty your chemical full bucket,” in other words, reduce your toxic load, and then regenerate the liver, your quality of life may one day increase.

Here are a few tips:

There are many things that contribute to good health—including good nutrition, exercise, and getting enough sleep. But for any person with MCS or severe chemical sensitivity, it is vital to reduce exposure to toxic chemicals. It is the key to recovery.

1. **Reduce exposure to toxic chemicals** by using natural cleaning/personal care products and eating organic. Clean up the home environment, especially the bedroom (check bed sheets). Use low VOC paints –(Behr is my favorite), natural pesticides, etc. (I can testify to this helping, because my reaction to a certain chemical became less when we began eating primarily organic.)

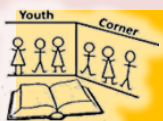
2. Absorb chemicals already in the body with clay baths, clay foot soaks, charcoal poultices over the liver/kidneys, and taking activated charcoal internally, etc. Eat a nutrition-rich, plant-based diet; the fiber in these foods also helps absorb toxins. An amazing story in the book Charcoalremedies.com details the story of several men accidentally exposed at work to benzene "raining" from a nearby tower. One took activated charcoal consistently-- 3 capsules, 3 times a day-- and prayed. The benzene levels in his blood, though originally twice that of some of the other men, later completely disappeared (to the astonishment of his doctor, who even ordered a retest). The man suffered no health problems. Later though, he found out from their lawyer that two of the other men suffered from blindness, four were on kidney dialysis and all were being treated by a neurological psychiatrist.⁸

3. Rebuild the Liver—Milk Thistle, Dandelion, and Lemon internally will help speed regeneration in the liver.

4. When exposed, fight back with health! Immediately, wash exposed skin, take a high dose of Vitamin C and drink pure water. Wash exposed clothing with clay water or vinegar (1/2-1 cup of vinegar per load in the wash cycle to neutralize formaldehyde.⁵) Also consider taking charcoal, turmeric (natural corticosteroid for inflammatory reactions) nettle (natural anti-histamine), and possibly ginger (anti-nausea).

Sometimes, it may take weeks, sometimes months, or even years to recover. For some recovery may not be complete until heaven, but rest in this promise *"they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."* Isaiah 40:31

1-- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5865484/> 2-- <https://www.webmd.com/allergies/multiple-chemical-sensitivity> 3-- <https://www.eiwellspring.org/stories/KimPalmer.htm>
4-- <https://www.eiwellspring.org/stories/HerHaircutsOutside.htm> 5-- https://www.eiwellspring.org/stories/Effects_of_Formaldehyde.htm 6-- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK234795/>
7-- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liver_regeneration#:~:text=The%20liver%20is%20the%20only,back%20to%20its%20full%20size. 8-- www.charcoalremedies.com by Dinsley, p. 132,133



The Face in the Looking-Glass

by T. Lewes—Contrib.by <https://lightindarkness.site/>

A missionary sat one hot summer afternoon beneath the verandah of the mission-house, reading, when, suddenly looking up, she was startled to find herself being intently regarded by a pair of eager eyes, belonging, it seemed to her at first, to some sort of monkey or other animal. But it was no monkey; for the owner of the eager eyes began in an equally eager voice, and in broken English, "Lady, tell poor ... girl about the good God, of whom you've come over the great sea to teach," and the face was upturned to the missionary with a wistful, yearning look.

The lady looked curiously at the strange figure before her. Well might she have taken the girl to be an animal rather than a human being. Imagine, if you can, a little squat figure, with filthy rags of clothing hanging to it, face and hands encrusted with dirt, and the unkempt, matted hair hanging down all round so thickly as to really give one the idea of a wild creature of the woods. And yet within the dark heart of this heathen child was a deep longing, so real and so earnest that she had overcome fear and timidity, and had come from her unclean dwelling to know more from the lips of the missionaries of the Lord and Saviour of whom she had heard rumors from those who had come under their teaching.

"Do tell poor heathen about the great God," she said again; for the missionary had sat without making reply to her first appeal. She had been thinking how and what she should answer.

At length she said, "Come to me tomorrow at this time, and you shall know what you wish." The child looked her thanks, and then, like a veritable thing of the woods, bounded away, and was quickly out of sight. The missionary sat there lost in thought, and soon from her heart came the cry, "O God, give me the soul of this poor heathen; teach me what I shall say to her, help me that I may reach her understanding."

Next day the missionary awaited within the house the coming of the heathen child. At length she saw the little form slowly and timidly approaching, and could see that the child was surprised and disappointed at not seeing her beneath the verandah. She sent the native servant forth to meet the child, who told her that her mistress was within and awaited her there. The little form drew near to the house and entered, following the servant. The missionary called the child to join her in an upper room, and she quickly ascended the stairs to the place whence the voice proceeded.



On her way she had to pass through a room in which hung a large mirror. The lady suddenly heard a loud piercing scream, and the girl rushed breathless into her presence, nearly fainting with terror, and at length gasping, "Why didn't you tell me?" as she pointed to the stairs up which she had just come. Then slowly she explained, when the missionary had soothed away her fear, how that she had seen in the room below, as she passed through, a terrible-looking wild beast, which approached her and seemed ready to spring upon her. "But there's no wild beast there," said the lady. "You surely are mistaken."

"No, no," pleaded the girl, "don't go," as the missionary descended the stairs to ascertain the cause of the child's terror; but, finding she still went down, the child, for very fear of being left alone, followed her.

"Where?" said the missionary, on reaching the room, and looking round. "Where is that which so affrighted you?"

"There, there," said the girl, pointing to the mirror, wherein were reflected her own face and form.

"But that's yourself there," said she, "and not a wild animal at all."

"Me?" was the surprised answer.

"Yes, that's your own face there."

The child wonderingly drew near and gazed at her form in the glass, and when the truth dawned upon her, said slowly, "Dirty! horrible! ugly!" and then, turning to the missionary, "I'd like to be clean, lady."

When, soon afterwards, trim and clean, with the long-unkempt hair nicely braided up, and in place of the rags of clothing, a pretty dress that the mission people had given her, the girl again stood before the mirror, she drew herself up, and with pleased beaming face kept repeating, "Clean now, pretty now, neat now!"

"Yes," said the lady, who was an amused spectator of it all, "but only outside." Then, drawing the child gently towards her, she told her, with love in her tones, of the spiritual deformity and defilement, to all of which the child listened with earnest attention. When the missionary had ceased speaking, the girl, with tears in her eyes, said the old words, "I'd like to be clean, lady."

A few days had passed, and the girl had had many long and happy talks with the missionary, when one afternoon she cautiously, almost with awe in her face, crept up the staircase once again, and stood in front of the glass which had before been such a source of terror. The missionary, with joy and thankfulness to God in her heart, for the wondrous way in which He had brought this little one to Himself, watched. Looking at her face and figure, now so bright and clean, she repeated: "Clean, pretty, neat;" and then, whilst heaven itself seemed to be reflected in the sweet face, "and cleansed inside too!"

My little tale is told. Have you caught its meaning? Have you seen yourselves in God's looking-glass - His Word? Have you been troubled and made wretched by the sight? Can you say today with the heathen child, "I've been cleansed"? If not, come at once, and let your prayer be "Lord, show me myself." When that is answered, as it soon will be, let this prayer go up to Him, "Lord, show me thyself," and the look of faith at Him shall save you.

"For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1:23-25

Kids' Corner

Can you match
each of the pictures on
the right to the correct
Bible verse?

God's Amazing Creatures



Little Runners' Health Tip:
Frogs have toes that hold on tight and "stick to it" when needed.

Boys and girls should "stick to" being healthy and eating their vegetables too, even when it's hard.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40:11

That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name?

Isaiah 63:12

Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

Jeremiah 32:17

And he [Jesus] took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

Mark 10:16

