

Readings from the Word of God

Sunday, 22 August 2021

1 Kings 18:26-29

So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "O Baal, hear us!" But there was no voice; no one answered. Then they leaped about the altar which they had made. And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened." So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. And when midday was past, they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice. But there was no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention.

1 Kings 18:36-39

And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "Jehovah God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. Hear me, O Jehovah, hear me, that this people may know that You are Jehovah God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again."

Then the fire of Jehovah fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "Jehovah, He is God! Jehovah, He is God!"

Genesis 2:21

Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

Matthew 25:13

Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

Matthew 26:40-41

What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Apocalypse Revealed §158

To be watchful has precisely this symbolic meaning in the Word, for a person who learns truths and lives according to them is like someone who awakens from sleep and becomes alert. By contrast, a person who lacks truths, but who is engaged simply in worship, is like someone who is asleep and dreaming.

Natural life, regarded in itself or apart from spiritual life, is really no more than a state of sleep, whereas natural life that contains spiritual life is a state of alertness. This alertness, moreover, is obtained only through truths - truths which appear in their own light and in their own clarity when a person lives in accordance with them.

Genesis 28:16

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely Jehovah is in this place, and I did not know it."

Psalms 44:23

Awake! Why do You sleep, O Lord? Arise! Do not cast us off forever.

Mark 4:37-41

And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Psalms 121:3-4

He who keeps you will not slumber.
Behold, He who keeps Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

Ezekiel 34:25

I will make a covenant of peace with them, and cause wild beasts to cease from the land; and they will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.

Psalms 3:5-6

I lay down and slept;
I awoke, for the Jehovah sustained me.
I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people
Who have set themselves against me all around.

Psalms 4:8

I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For You alone, O Jehovah, make me dwell in safety.

Psalms 127:2

It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows; For so He gives His beloved sleep.

Secrets of Heaven §1983

Evil spirits have a strong and burning desire to harass and attack man when he is asleep, but at that time man is especially protected by the Lord, for love does not sleep.