

- 1) Revelations 6:9-11
  1. When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?" Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed.
- 2) Luke 16:25
  1. "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.
- 3) 1 Corinthians 13:8-10
  1. Where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.
  2. My words: This means we have limited and imperfect knowledge while on earth, but after we die, we will have full, total, and perfect knowledge of all things in heaven.
- 4) 1 Corinthians 13:12
  1. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.
  2. My words: This means that we will know and understand all things fully and nothing will be misunderstood or unknown.
- 5) Revelations 6:9-11
  1. When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne they cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before thou wilt judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell upon the earth?" Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.
  2. My words: The martyrs were petitioning God.
- 6) Revelations 5:8
  1. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints;
  2. My words: The angels and the saints are offering the prayers of the Church to Jesus.
- 7) Revelations 8:3-5
  1. Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar,

and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

i) My words: The prayers of the saints on earth were given to the angel and the prayers “went up before God **from the angel’s hand**. This is proof that we can ask angels, saints, and Mary to pray for us because these prayers were given to this angel and this angel offered them up to God. These prayers did not go directly to God. God responded and answered to these prayers. The censer being thrown down to earth is the symbolic answer from God to the saints in response to their prayers.

8) Hebrews 12:1

1. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us
2. St. Paul talking about the many Old Testament saints that had died before them, but that had surrounded the early Church, was watching over the early church, and witnesses of Christ to the early Church.

9) Isaiah 25:8

1. "He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces.
2. My words: If we do not know any of the past sorrows of our lives, then why will it be necessary for God to wipe away our tears?

10) **2 Maccabees 15:14**

And Onias spoke, saying, "This is a man who loves the brethren and prays much for the people and the holy city, **Jeremiah [bodily dead]**, the prophet of God."