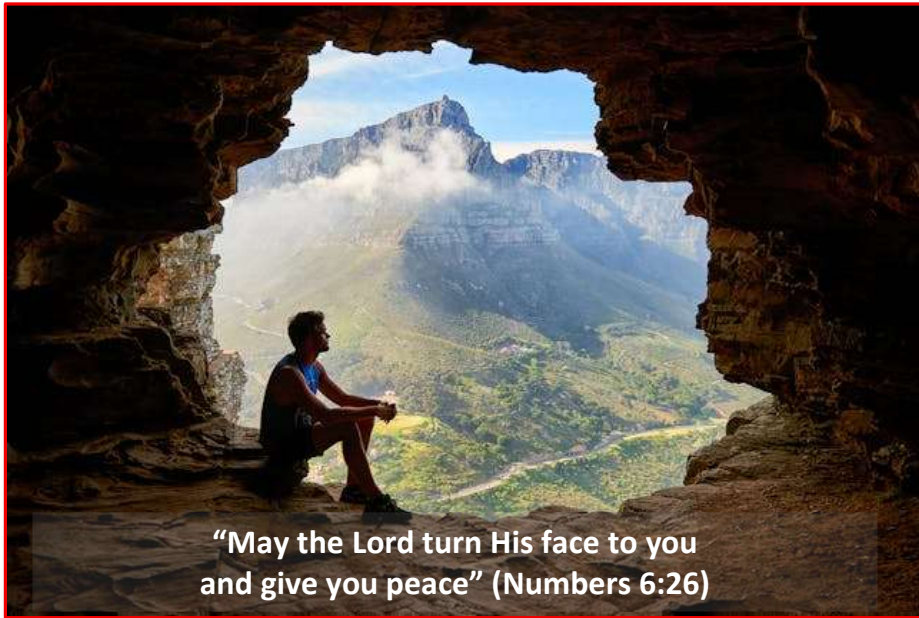




ABC NEWS

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"May the Lord turn His face to you
and give you peace" (Numbers 6:26)

Sunday 17th August 2025

Series: Word Studies

Breath, Glory, Shalom

Readings: Various

Simon Downing

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE – Simon's band will be leading worship before he continues with his Word Study series. This week Simon will be looking at – 'Breath, Glory, Shalom' - three more important words in the bible that we use all of the time. But what do they really mean and what are their implications? To find out, you need to be here! Of course, we do hope you can join us for the service in the church but if you can't actually join us, you will be able to access the service at any time by going to:

<https://www.alldwickbaptist.co.uk/category/current-sermons>.

NEXT WEEKEND'S WORSHIP SERVICE 24th August 2025 – Brenda's band will be leading worship before Clive dips into Ecclesiastes chapters 1 and 2 as he contrasts 'Earthly life with Eternal life.' This is clearly an important topic as we are currently experiencing our earthly life – but this is a prelude to what is to come. Sounds intriguing, so don't miss it.

OUR MONTHLY PRAYER GATHERING – Were you there? 30 people can answer 'Yes' to that question and testify that it was a very worthwhile hour. There really is something very special when the church come together as a family and seek God in prayer. So, if you answered 'No' to my question, then I ask you to think again next month – don't miss out on such a blessing (Tuesday, 2nd September at 7pm).

A PRAYER REQUEST SENT BY SAT7 – We have received an urgent plea from a group of Afghan Christians in Tajikistan, who desperately need our prayers.

To the churches of God around the world, from a brother in chains of sorrow, yet free in Christ – a humble servant of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Dearly beloved, as I write these words, my heart is overwhelmed with anguish, tears, and groaning that do not cease day or night. For 23 nights, sleep has escaped my eyes – not for myself, but for the suffering that has come upon the body of Christ, His church. We, a community of Afghan believers, now reside in Tajikistan. Yet our situation is uncertain and filled with fear and hope mingled together. Many conflicting reports surround us – some bring fleeting comfort, while others strike terror in our hearts. Some of us face the threat of forced return – a return not to safety, but for many, to the very mouth of death.

As your younger brother, I earnestly plead with you: Pray for us. Remember us in your gatherings and intercessions. Write letters. Be our voice. Reach out to organisations and governments who have the ability to help.

Please join other Christians across the world in praying for these oppressed people. Barbara.

This week's poem

This week, as we reflect on our final Word Study—**Breath, Glory, and Shalom**—we're reminded that God is not distant from our everyday lives. His Spirit breathes into our busyness. His glory fills not only the heavens but our humble days. And His peace—true shalom—offers wholeness even in a fractured world. The following poem invites us to slow down, breathe deeply, and remember that God is as present in the ordinary as He is in the majestic

Breath, Glory, Shalom

In crowded days and hurried pace,
Where noise and pressure steal our space,
We pause to breathe, to feel again—
The Ruach moves, not bound by men.
His breath still speaks through time and dust,
A holy whisper: "Live and trust."

The glory shines in skies above,
In acts of grace, in quiet love.
Though we rush on through tasks and plans,
God's weighty presence gently stands.
In all our striving, may we see—
His radiant glory waits for me.

And in the stress of life's demand,
God offers more than we have planned.
Not just escape or fleeting calm,
But deep, restoring soul-shalom.
A peace that holds through storm and strain—
A heart made whole, alive again.

So may we walk where Spirit leads,
In daily steps and hidden deeds.
Breathed on by God, at peace, made new—
Reflecting glory in all we do.
With every breath and every song,
We live His grace—where we belong.

TAB (The Aldwick bard)

PLEASE PRAY FOR DOROTHY RIDLEY AND HER FAMILY – As they say farewell to Luke on Monday. Please pray for Sue and Julian Luke's parents who are heartbroken over the loss of their son. Pray too for Dorothy, Luke's grandmother, who, as well as grieving their loss, remains very unwell with heart problems. Please pray for healing and peace of mind. Pray too for Simon as he prepares and leads this service. Pray for strength and guidance for the words he will be delivering.

... and finally

Prayer Wall

Please continue to pray for Polly as she undertakes a new round of treatment. Please pray too for Peter Kaufman as he continues his healing journey.

Please also pray for Chris Grant who is still very fragile. Pray for healing and strength. Pray also for healing for Frank who has a large swelling on his knee.

Please continue to give thanks that Matt Wood is back at home and slowly improving. He is still unwell and definitely needs our prayers. Please pray for ongoing healing and for peace of mind for the family.

Please continue to pray for Polly as she continues with her new course of treatment. Please pray that Polly will experience healing, renewed strength, and restored health. Pray too for strength and peace for Clive and the family.

Please do pray for our ladies currently living in care homes. Pray for Molly Hawkins at Burlington, Mo Howland at Westergate House and Pam Brown at Cherington.

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