**1**I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying

my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— **2** that

I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

**3** For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. **4** They are Israelites, and to them belong

the adoption,

the glory,

the covenants,

the giving of the law,

the worship, and

the promises.

**5** To them belong

the patriarchs,

and from their race,

according to the flesh,

is the Christ,

who is God over all, blessed forever.

Amen.

Inspired by *Romans -* *The Readable Bible* (Iron Stream Publishing, 2022)