My Loved Ones:

In Psalm 103:4, God says, "Who redeems your life from destruction, / Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies."

God redeems our lives. To "redeem" means to buy back from a bad situation to a good usage through a payment. Jesus has redeemed us because He lived, shed His blood, died and rose again for us. We were in a bad situation: sin. But He bought us so that we can be useful to Him. The R. C. Bottling Company in Middleport, OH used to have a redemption price on their glass bottles. The old bottles sitting around weren't doing anyone any good; but the company would redeem them for a price and put them to good use. God's redemption wants to put us to good use. Are you good for something for the Lord? Hopefully, none of us in how we live our lives are "good for nothing!"

Notice that He redeems us from destruction. One one level, God redeems us from a premature death (Ps 6:5; 28:1). On another level, He redeems us spiritually (Ps 49:7-9, 13-15), and in doing so, He gives us His Own powerful resurrection life to live eternally! Praise the Lord.

God also crowns us with His most tender, caring, and loving attributes. These are the crowns that He gives that give beauty to our lives. Loved ones, claim today, this Christmas Eve, even though we're in a pandemic, that God redeems us from destruction, and still blesses us with His tender mercies!

We love you and are praying for you today, loved ones.