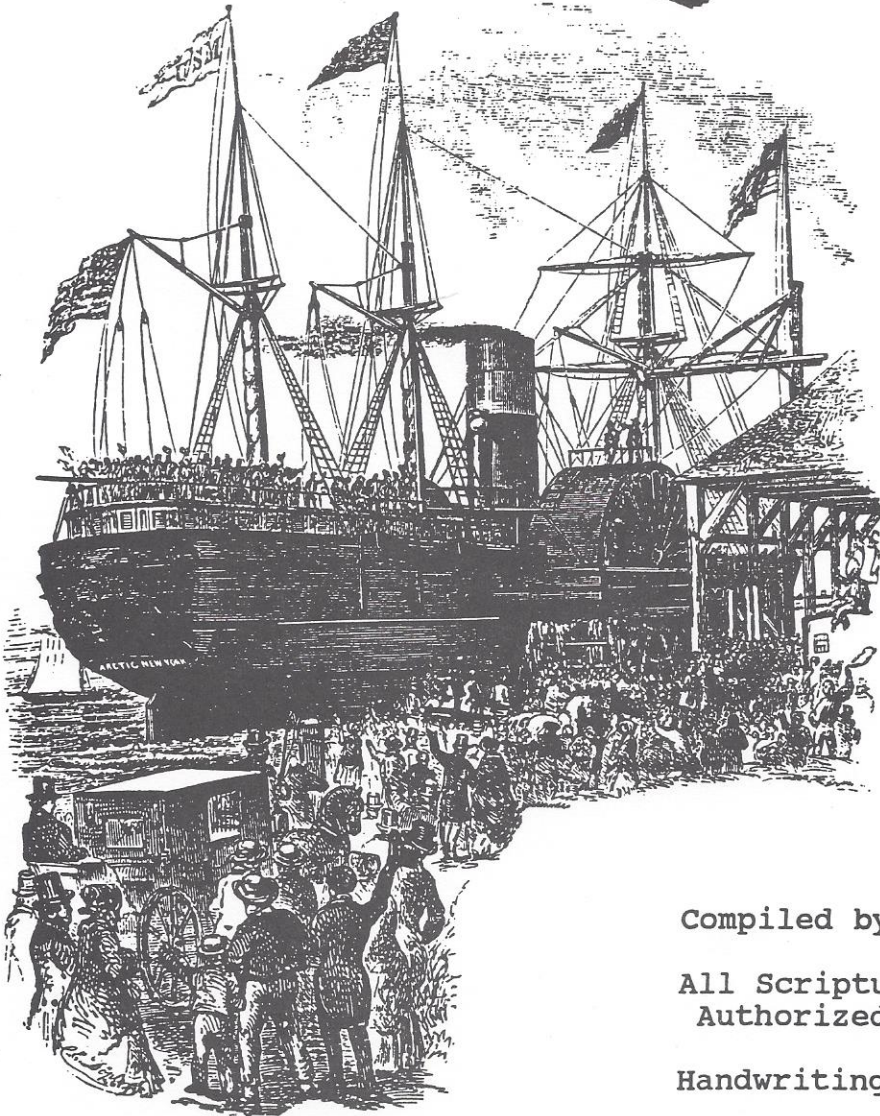


Prayers



II

Compiled by Mary J. Craig, M.A.

All Scripture taken from the
Authorized King James Version

Handwriting by Donna Lambertus

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TRUSTING GOD...A WAY OF LIFE

Trusting God becomes a way of life when you are able to acknowledge God's sovereignty and His goodness. God is in control of your life. He does indeed love you. He does work out all the circumstances of your life for your ultimate good and His glory.

Trusting God involves acknowledging that God is completely sovereign, infinite in wisdom, and perfect in love. God wills what is best for you because His love is unselfish and His wisdom, infinite. AND, His absolute power and sovereignty mean He is able to bring it about. (Psalm 50; 32.10; Prov. 27.1; Eccl 7.13; Lam. 3?32-38; Heb. 12.11; John 19.10,11; Isaiah 38.17; Romans 11.33)

The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed,
a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know
thy name will put their trust in thee; for thou,
LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.
(Psalm 9.9,10, KJV, emphasis mine)

Some think we must choose between a good God who is not omnipotent and a powerful God who is not totally good. They think this because of suffering and evil and apparent chaos. But God is Source and Sustainer of all life. He supplies and provides. (Heb. 1.3; Col. 1.17; Neh. 9.6; Psalm 147.8,9; Acts 17.25-28; Psalm 31.15, etc.) God rules and governs absolutely. (1 Chron 29.12; 1 Tim 6.15; Mt 10.29; Lam 3.27; Dan 4.17,35) Just because God does not act the way we think He should does not mean He is less than who He is. God is Lawgiver and Judge, not we. God brings all events to their appointed end. (Psalm 33.10,11; 2 Tim 1.12; Prov 19.21, 16.9, 21.30; Rev 3.7) God rejoices in doing us good (Jer 32.41). God does as HE pleases. (Job 42.2; Psalm 115.31; Isaiah 17.27, 43.13, 46.10; Dan 4.35; Eph 1.1)

God's purpose for all believers is to conform them to the image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8.29). He also has something unique for every individual (Eph 2.10; Psalm 138.8). Joseph recognized the uniqueness of God's presence directing the days of his life (Gen 45.7,8). God's purpose fueled the divine compulsion that ordered the life of Jesus Christ, who lived in perfect submission to the will of His Father. You are to derive comfort and encouragement from the scriptures that you might have hope (Romans 15.4) and that you might learn to live by faith and not sight (2 Cor 5.7).

Do we praise God for His sovereign goodness in adversity? Consider Eccl. 7.14, Isaiah 45.7, Lam 3.38. We must trust God always...and only. In Acts 12 James dies and Peter is spared. Why? Can we trust God in the midst of perplexing and grievous events?

We learn to trust God one circumstance at a time, as God's will reigns supreme over our own. God prompts people, e.g. Isaiah 45, 2 Cor. 8. God restrains people, e.g. Ezra, Exodus 34. And yes, God permits evil (Deut 2.30, Joshua 11.20), working through a person's will, to accomplish His purpose while not being the author of sin. (James 1.12-18)

Respond by trusting God and continuing in prayer. Remember, you are responsible before God to follow Him in obedience to the gospel. Sometimes it is easier to obey than it is to trust. Trusting involves your faith in the PERSON of God beyond and behind His Word. It involves holding to the Word of God even when His presence may not be perceived. You remain accountable before God for your actions and decisions and are to pursue holiness actively. Obey "the things revealed" (Deut 29.29). Stay thankful and actively praise God in all circumstances.

It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne it upon him. He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope. He giveth his cheek to him that smiteth him: he is filled full with reproach.

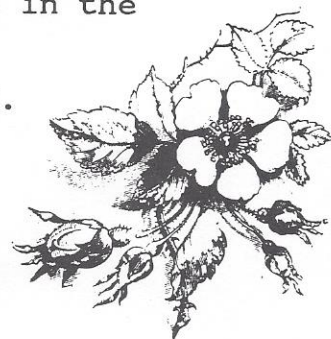
For the LORD will not cast off forever: But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men.

To crush under his feet all the prisoners of the earth, to turn aside the right of a man before the face of the Most High, to subvert a man in his cause, the LORD approveth not.

Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the LORD commandeth it not? Out of the mouth of the Most High proceedeth not evil and good? Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD. Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.
(Lamentations 3.22-41, KJV)

Seek God...For His Glory and for Your Good.



A PRAYER TO SEEK GOD...AND TRUST

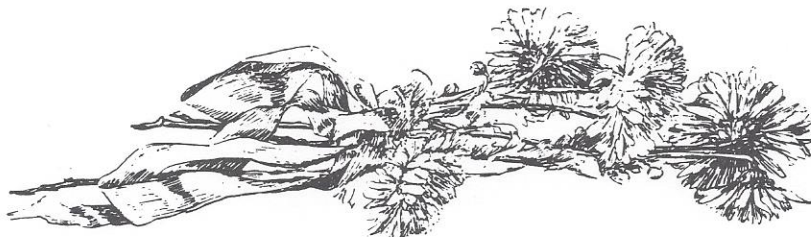
Holy Father,

As for You, Your way is perfect; the word of the LORD is tried: You are a buckler to all those that trust in You (2 Sam. 22.31). Today I put my trust in You and rejoice; I shout for joy, because You defend me (Psalm 5.11). As I put my trust in You, O LORD my God, save me from all those that persecute me, and deliver me (Psalm 7.1). You will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know Your name will put their trust in You: for You, LORD, have not forsaken those that seek You. (Psalm 9.9,10)

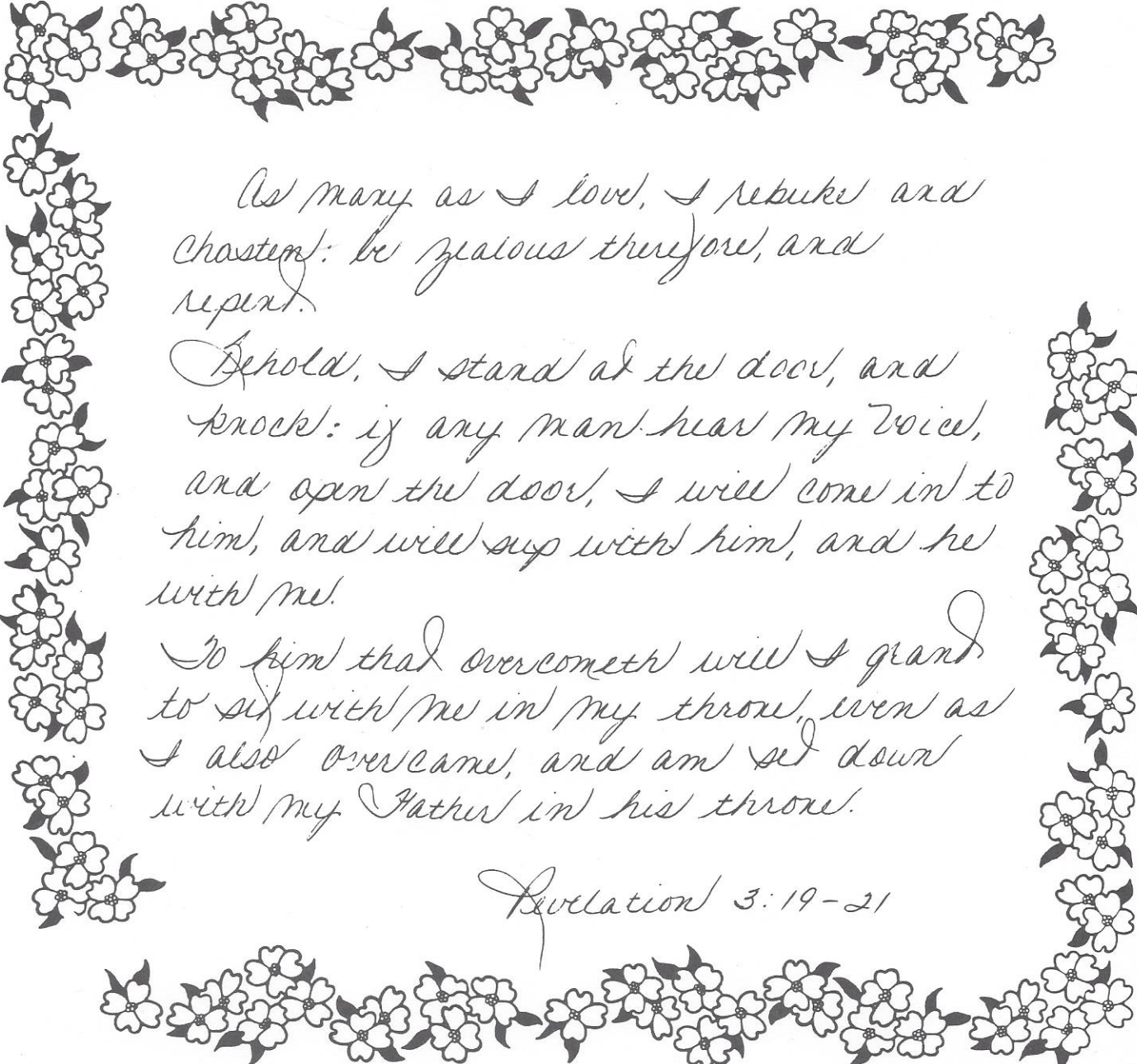
I, who trust in the LORD, mercy shall compass me about (Psalm 32.10). The eye of the LORD is upon those that fear Him, upon those that hope in His mercy; to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine (Psalm 33.18,19). O taste and see that the LORD is good. Blessed is the one that trusts in Him. The LORD redeems the soul of His servants; and none of those that trust in Him shall be desolate (Psalm 34.8,22).

Let me set my hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments (Psalm 78.7). A good person shows favor and lends; I will guide my affairs with discretion and shall not be afraid of evil tidings; my heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord. My heart is established, I shall not be afraid, until I see my desire upon my enemies (Psalm 112.5-8). It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man or princes (Psalm 118.8,9). The LORD takes pleasure in me as I fear Him, as I hope in His mercy (Psalm 147.11).

I trust in the Lord with all my heart and do not lean to my own understanding. In all my ways I acknowledge Him, and He shall direct my paths (Prov. 3.5,6). I do not boast about tomorrow, for I do not know what a day may bring forth (Prov 27.1). I consider the work of God; for who can make straight what He has made crooked? In the day of prosperity I am joyful, but in the day of adversity, I consider: Surely You, O God, have appointed the one as well as the other, so that I can find out nothing that will come after me (Eccles. 7.13,14). But, whoso puts his trust in the LORD shall be made fat, shall be safe (Prov. 28.25; 29.25). You keep me in perfect peace as my mind is stayed on You, because I trust in You (Isaiah 26.3).



In returning and rest I shall be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be my strength (Isaiah 30.15). I put my trust in God and so shall possess the land and shall inherit Your holy mountain (Isaiah 57.13). I am blessed as I trust and hope in the LORD, for then I shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreads out her roots by the river, and I shall not see when heat comes but my leaf shall be green (Jer. 17.7,8). The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble, and He knows those that trust in Him (Nahum 1.7). Thank you, LORD. In Jesus' Name. Amen.



As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Revelation 3:19-21

REFLECTING ON JESUS' LOVE FOR ME

Dear Lord Jesus,

I thank You for Your willing obedience to the Father's will and law, and that You always do those things which please the Father (John 8.29). I thank You that You grew in favor with God and men (Luke 2.52), that You were perfected (Heb. 2.10; 5.9) and learned obedience in the things which You suffered (Heb. 5.8), moving from trial to trial, even to death on the cross (Phil 2). In all those trials, temptations, deprivations, and sufferings, in all Your thoughts, words, and deeds, You demonstrated perfect, personal, perpetual obedience. You kept every precept fully that Your righteousness might be imputed to me by faith. You bore in Yourself by legal imputation the penalty due me for my sin. Today I am pardoned and accepted as righteous before God because of You. (Romans 5)

You are my High Priest (Heb. 7, 9), the Lamb of God (Jn 1.29, 1 Peter 1.19), whose blood has purchased me (Rev. 5, 8,9) such that I have washed my robes and I have made them white because of Your blood (Rev. 7.14). Your death was a sacrifice, an offering unto God, for sin (Eph. 5.2, Heb. 9, 10). My sin was imputed to You (Isaiah 53). You are my substitute in the place of (Mk 10.45), because of (2 Cor. 8.9), for (Romans 8.3, 1 John 2.2), in behalf of (Romans 5.6,8; 8.32) me. My sins have been cancelled. I had sin and guilt, and now I am free.

You bore the divine wrath of God, turning it aside, taking away my sins (Romans 3.25, Heb. 2.17, 1 John 2.2, 1 John 4.10). This wrath was God's holy recoil against all that is in contradiction to Himself, the agony of rejected love. Your death satisfied divine justice and removed God's displeasure. Because God is holy, there is instinctive holy indignation and recoil against sin, a personal divine revulsion to evil and vigorous opposition to it, an unrelenting, uncompromising antagonism to evil. My sin has offended God's infinite holiness and nothing less than Your infinite worth could cancel such a debt or meet the demands of God's offended holiness and justice. God's love and grace through You, Lord Jesus, have enabled this change in which God now deals with me. Thank You. You gave Yourself for me (Gal. 2.20).

While I was yet an enemy, I was reconciled to God through the death of His Son, and so how much more, having been reconciled, shall I be saved by His life. I rejoice in God through my Lord Jesus Christ, through whom I received the reconciliation (Rom. 5.10,11). I am a new creation. God reconciled me to Himself through Christ and gave to me the ministry of reconciliation. God was in Christ reconciling a world unto Himself, not imputing to them their trespasses, and entrusting to me the message of reconciliation. I implore others now: Be reconciled to God. God made Him who knew no sin to be sin in my stead, in order that I might become the righteousness of God in

Him (2 Cor. 5.17-21).

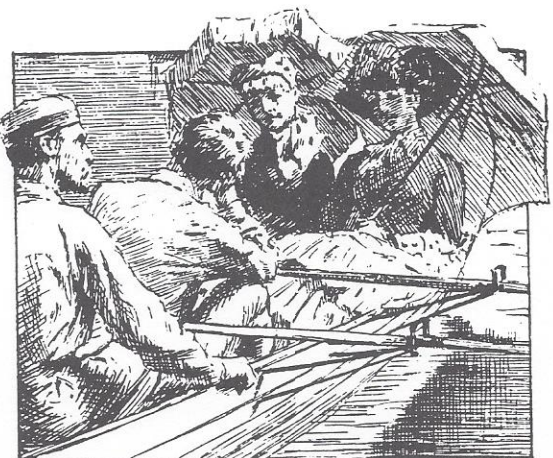
Lord Jesus Christ, You are my peace, through the cross, slaying the enmity of God by it (Eph. 2.14-17). Once I was alienated and an enemy in my mind because of evil deeds, but now You, Jesus, have reconciled by the body of Your flesh through death, to present me holy, unblemished, and blameless in His sight (Col. 1.19-22). God is no longer alienated from me (Romans 5). His hostility against me has been slain and terminated. May I now determine to terminate my hostility toward God!

Lord Jesus, I was in slavery and bondage again to fear, and You redeemed me. By Your sacrificial death You paid a ransom for me (Mark 10.45, 1 Peter 1.18,19). You paid a price for my forgiveness. You are worthy because You were slain and bought me for God with Your blood (Rev. 5.9). I am one who follows the Lamb wherever He goes. I was bought from among men. (cf Rev. 14.4, Heb. 9.12, Titus 2.14, Romans 3. 24-27, Eph 1.7, Col. 1.14). You are my wisdom from God, my righteousness, sanctification, and redemption (1 Cor 1.30). I am not my own, for I was bought with a price (1 Cor. 6.19,20; Acts 20.28). I am redeemed from the curse of the law (Gal. 3.13), from the guilt of sin (Eph. 1.7), from the power and fruitlessness of sin (Romans 6), and one day, from the presence of sin.

Lord Jesus, I was under the dominion of Satan in the kingdom of evil. But You were manifested in order that You might destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3.8). Satan is a defeated enemy (Mt. 12.29, Luke 11.21,22, John 12.31). The ruler of this world has been judged (Jn. 16.11). You nullified Satan's power, delivering me from the destroyer (Heb. 2.14,15, Col. 2.13-15). The law is Satan's ground of accusation, but, Jesus, You paid the penalty for sins and bore the curse (Col. 2), disarming the accuser and triumphing over him and evil (2 Cor. 2.14, Rev. 12.11). Today I resist Satan (James 4.7, 1 Peter 5.9) by the exercise of faith (Mt. 17.20, 1 John 5.4), by prayer (Mt. 9.29), by the word of God (Eph. 6.17, Mt. 4.4), by the blood of the Lamb (Rev. 12.11), in the power of Jesus' name (Luke 10.17).

I have an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, the kingdom of God, because of what You, Lord Jesus, purposed to do. Thank You that: "It is finished." (John 19.30)

You are my Lord and my God in whom I trust. In Your Name, Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



LORD, INCREASE MY FAITH

LORD,

I believe; help thou mine unbelief (Mark 9.24). As for God, Your way is perfect and Your word tried. You are a buckler to all who trust in You (2 Samuel 22.31). I rejoice and shout for joy because You defend me (Psalm 5.11). You save me from all who persecute me (Psalm 7.1). Those who know Your Name put their trust in You. You do not forsake those who seek You (Psalm 9.9,10).

It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man or in princes (Ps 118.8). In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence (Prov. 14.26). If I have faith in God and do not doubt, all things whatsoever I shall ask in prayer, believing, I shall receive (Mt. 21.22).

Increase my faith (Luke 17.5). Jesus, You have said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life: the one who believes in Me, though dead, yet shall that one live: and whosoever lives and believes in Me shall never die (John 11.25,26)." And I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believes; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith (Rm 1.16,17).

LORD, may I remember Abraham, who staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform. And as Abraham, my faith shall be imputed to me for righteousness if I believe on Him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification (Rm 4.20-25). If I confess with my mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in my heart that God has raised Him from the dead, I shall be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness: and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Rm 10.9, 10)

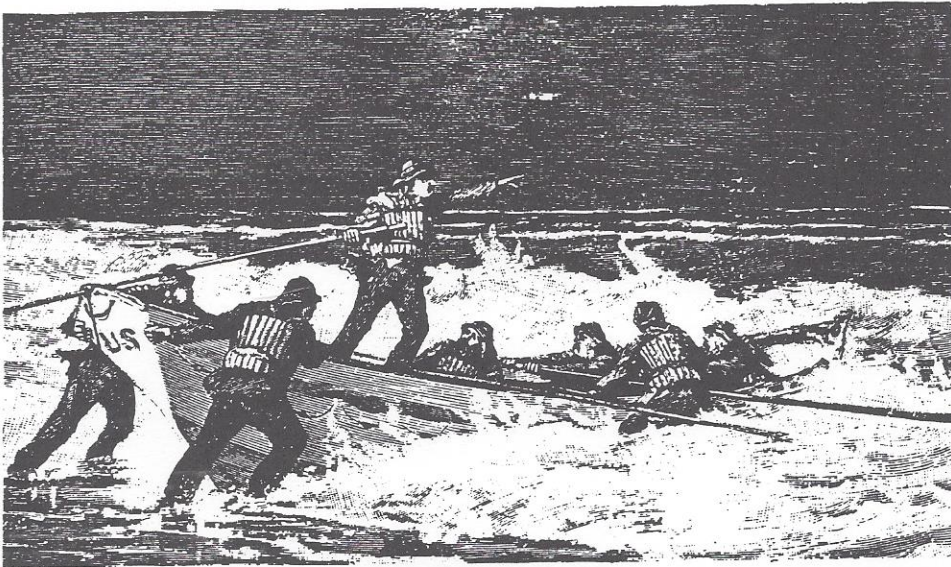
My faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God (1 Cor. 2.5). I receive the promise of the Spirit through faith (Gal. 3.14). I am a child of God by faith in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3.26).

Grant me grace to continue in the faith grounded and settled, not moved away from the hope of the gospel (Col. 1.23). And let me be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and having a helmet, the hope of salvation (1 Thess. 5.8). The end of the commandment is love out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned (1 Tim. 1.5). So let me fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life, whereunto I am called, and have professed a good profession before many witnesses. (1 Tim. 6.12)

For without faith it is impossible to please God; for one that comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is the rewarder of those that diligently seek Him (Heb. 11.6). Whatsoever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith (1 Jn 5.4).

LORD, You have said, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life (Rev. 2.10)."

LORD, keep me faithful. In Your mighty Name, Jesus, I pray.
Amen.



*Fear thou not; for I am with thee:
be not dismayed; for I am thy God:
I will strengthen thee; yea, I will
help thee; yea, I will uphold thee
with the right hand of my righteousness.*

Isaiah 41:10

MAKING BITTER WATERS SWEET

Holy Father,

You are the Lord that heals me. You make bitter waters sweet. Grant me grace to diligently harken to Your voice, and do that which is right in Your sight, and give ear to Your commandments, and keep Your statutes. (Exodus 15.23-26) Let not profaneness or wickedness go forth into the land from Your prophets and priests lest You feed them with wormwood and make them drink the water of gall (Jeremiah 23.15).

The tongue is a world of iniquity and defiles the whole body, an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. Does a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? No fountain can yield both salt water and fresh. Let me be as one wise and endued with knowledge. Let me show out of a good conversation my works with meekness of wisdom. If I have bitter envying and strife in my heart, let me neither glory nor lie against the truth. This wisdom descends not from above, but is earthly, sensual, and demonic. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. (James 3.6-17)

Lord Jesus, let me not deny You as did Peter, who, in acknowledging his denial, went out and wept bitterly, with weeping that was violent, uncontrolled, and expressing utter despair (Mt. 26.75). Yet, if I have denied You, let me, like Peter, repent with sincere repentance.

I have seen affliction by the rod of Your wrath. I have been led into darkness, but not into light. My flesh is old and my bones, broken. I am compassed with gall and travail, hedged about with heavy chains. I cry and shout, but my prayers seem shut out. My paths are crooked. I am as a mark for the arrow. I have been made desolate, a derision to all my people. I am filled with bitterness and drunk with wormwood. I have forgotten prosperity, and I said, "My strength and my hope is perished from the Lord; remembering my affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall." (Lamentations 3)

O Lord, help me recall and thus have hope. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion. I will hope in You. The Lord is good to those that wait for Him, to the soul that seeks Him. It is good to bear the yoke in youth. Though there be grief, yet will You, O Lord, have compassion according to the multitude of mercies. (Lamentations 3)

You do not afflict willingly. Let me search and try my ways and turn again to the Lord. Let me lift up my heart with my hands unto God in the heavens. I have transgressed and rebelled. You have not pardoned. (Lamentations 3)

O Lord, I have known grief and disappointment, hate and anger. Keep me from turning my heart away from You. Keep me from going and serving other gods that there be no root bearing gall and wormwood (Deut. 29.18). My mouth is full of cursing and bitterness, for I have no fear of God before my eyes (Romans 3.14, 18). My unrighteous actions and desires have produced bitterness, and I confess that I am under the power of sin (Romans 3.9). I have provoked Your anger by my own disobedience and rebellion (Psalm 106.7, Psalm 68). Let me not harden my heart, grieving You because of my unbelief (Hebrews 3).

Rather, save me, Lord Jesus. Forgive me my sins, iniquity, and transgressions. Deliver me from evil. Let me vex not nor grieve the Holy Spirit of God, whereby I am sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and evil speaking be put away from me, with all malice: and grant me grace to be kind to others, tender-hearted, forgiving others, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven me (Eph. 4.30-32).

Let me lay aside this weight and sin that I may run the race with patience, looking to Jesus, the Author and Perfector of my faith. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, despising its shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. He endured the contradiction of sinners. (Hebrews 12.1-3) He endured the denial of His disciples, the betrayal of Judas, unjust accusation, trial, and judgment, the temptations of Satan. When the authors of sin and evil, with its consequent curse and suffering unto death, did all they could to the Incarnate God, the LORD of glory, He was crucified and died. He bore the pain of humanity's rebellion as tempted by the greatest tempter, Satan. Jesus passed every test, every trial of faith and loyalty. He learned obedience through the things which He suffered. He was perfected in suffering. The greater the injustice suffered, the greater the betrayal, the more He continued to forgive, to love, to do good and to deliver those oppressed by the devil. He overcame evil with good. He overcame...and so can I, with God's grace.

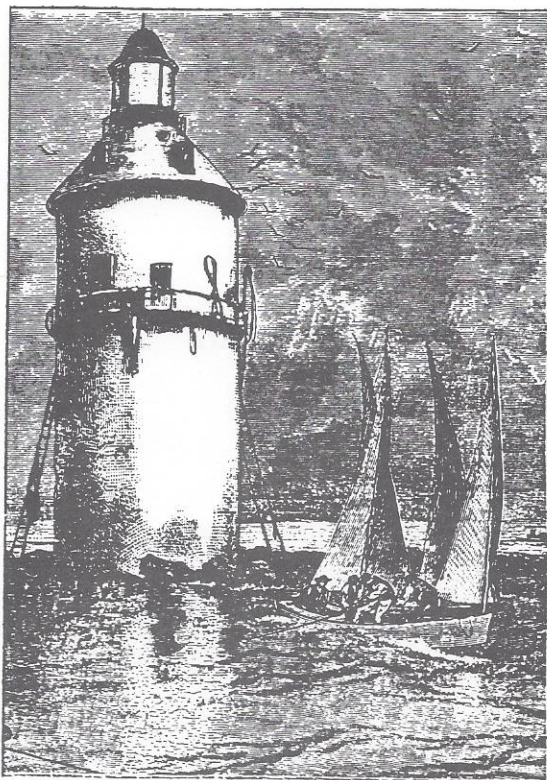
Now, this correction and chastening is grievous, but for my profit, that I might partake of God's holiness. I choose, therefore, to follow peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one shall see the Lord. I look diligently unto Jesus lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble me and thereby many be defiled by fornication or profaneness. I am come to Jesus, the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling. I do not turn away from the voice of heaven. (Hebrews 12)

By grace I receive the kingdom which cannot be moved. Let me have grace whereby I may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear, for our God is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12). I offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, giving thanks to His name (Heb. 13.15). Jesus Christ died and was resurrected, raised to rule. Let me obey the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love.

Turn my wounds into weapons. Holy Father, I want to know Jesus and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings (Phil. 3.10). I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me. And the life which I now live in this flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me (Gal. 2.20). For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in me (Romans 8.18).

Let me forgive those whom I need to forgive. For if I forgive people their trespasses, You, my Heavenly Father, will also forgive me (Mt. 6.14). I choose to come after Jesus, deny myself, take up my cross, and follow Jesus (Mark 8.34). Let me have fervent love among the brethren: for love covers a multitude of sins (1 Peter 4.8).

Lord, teach me to love. I, too, shall overcome. For Jesus' sake and in His Name, Amen.



A PRAYER TO ENTER INTO THE REST OF ASSURED SALVATION

Holy Father,

I thank You that my salvation is secured by Your grace and the blood of Christ's cross. I thank You that I am the elect of God. I thank You for Your grace, love, and mercy extended to me. I thank You for who I am in Jesus Christ because of what He has done in my behalf.

I bless You, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed me with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: according as He has chosen me in Him before the foundation of the world, that I should be holy and without blame before Him in love: having predestined me unto the adoption of a child by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will. May it all be to the praise of the glory of Your grace, wherein You have made me accepted in the beloved, in whom I have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of Your grace; wherein You have abounded toward me in all wisdom and prudence. (Ephesians 1.3-8)

You act according to Your good pleasure which You have purposed in Yourself, that in the dispensation of the fulness of times You might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth. In Christ also I have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who works all things after the counsel of His own will. May it all be to the praise of Your glory. (Ephesians 1.9-15)

I was dead in trespasses and sins and walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience. I walked in the lust of my flesh, fulfilling its desires, and I was by nature a child of wrath. But You, God, rich in mercy, and for Your great love wherewith You loved me, You have quickened me together with Christ and saved me by grace and You have raised me up and made me sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. All of this You did that in the ages to come You might show the exceeding riches of Your grace in Your kindness toward me, through Christ Jesus. I was saved by grace through faith as the gift of God, not of works, so that I may never boast. (Ephesians 2.1-9)

I thank You for the substitutionary, propitiatory, redemptive death of the Lord Jesus Christ for my sins. I thank You that His precious blood was shed on the cross for my sins. Jesus Christ purchased me with His own blood (Acts 20.28). I came short of the glory of God, but I am being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins

that are past, through the forbearance of God, that He might be the just, and the justifier of me who believes in Jesus. I have no reason therefore to ever boast. (Romans 3.23-27) When I was an enemy, I was reconciled to You, God, by the death of Your Son. Now, much more, being reconciled, I shall be saved by His life, and I have joy in You, God, through my Lord Jesus Christ, by whom I have now received the atonement. (Romans 5.10,11)

I thank You, that I have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and have received the new birth produced by the indwelling Spirit of God. I do not walk after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. Jesus condemned sin in the flesh that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in me, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. The Spirit of God dwells in me, and I through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body and live. I am not under slavery and bondage to fear, but I have received the Spirit of adoption, the Spirit who bears witness with my spirit, that I am a child of God, heir of God, and joint-heir with Christ. I reckon that present suffering cannot even be compared to the glory to be revealed in me. (Romans 8.1-18)

Who can now condemn me or lay a charge to God's elect? God has justified me and Jesus died and rose again and is at the right hand of God making intercession for me. Nothing can separate me from the love of Christ. All things are working together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. I was predestined to be conformed to the image of God's Son, to be called, justified, and glorified. The Spirit makes intercession for me, and Jesus is my faithful High Priest, ever living to make intercession for me. (Romans 8.26-39; Hebrews 7.25, 9.24)

I am, therefore, confident of this very thing, that You who began a good work in me will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. May my love abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment, that I may approve things that are excellent and be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ. May I be filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God. May my way of life become the gospel of Christ so that I stand fast, striving for the faith of the gospel, in nothing terrified by my adversaries. (Phil. 1.6-28) I am grounded and settled, not moved away from the hope of the gospel which I have heard (Col. 1.23). I am rooted and built up in Christ and established in the faith. I am complete in Christ. (Col. 2.7,10)

May the God of peace sanctify me wholly and may my whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of my Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He that called me, who also will do it. (1 Thess. 5.23,24)

In Jesus' Name, Amen.



A PRAYER TO STRENGTHEN THE SOUL

Holy Father,

The Lord is my strength and song, and He is become my salvation. He is my God, and I will prepare Him a habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt Him. (Ex. 15.2) And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for He is not a man, that He should repent (1 Sam. 15.29).

For who is God, save the Lord? And who is a rock, save our God? God is my strength and power; and He makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like hinds' feet; and sets me upon my high places. (2 Sam. 22.32-34)

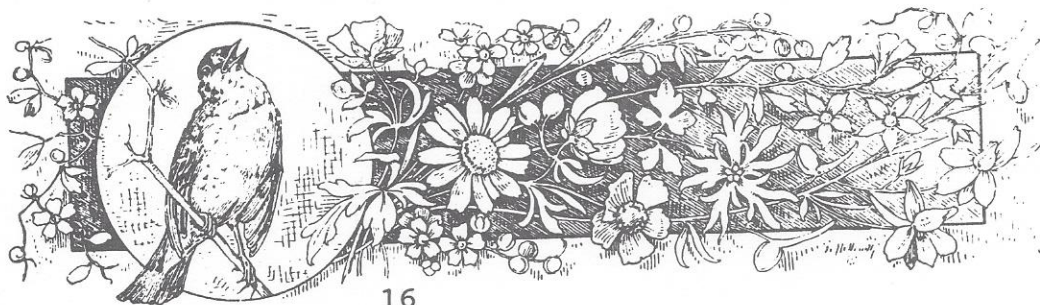
I give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His name. I sing unto Him psalms and talk of His wondrous works. I glory in His holy name. I seek the Lord and His strength. I seek His face continually. (1 Chron. 16.8-11) I will not be sorry or sad; for the joy of the Lord is my strength (Neh. 8.10).

The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. (Psalm 18.2,3)

My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaves to my jaws, and You have brought me into the dust of death. Be not far from me, O Lord: O my strength, hasten to help me. (Psalm 22.15, 19)

The Lord is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm 27.1) The Lord is the saving strength of His anointed (Psalm 28.8). The Lord will be strength unto His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace (Ps 29.11).

Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with grief, yes, my soul and my belly. My life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my knees are consumed. (Ps 31.9,10) Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry; hold not Your peace with my tears, for I am a stranger with You, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more. (Psalm 39.12,13)



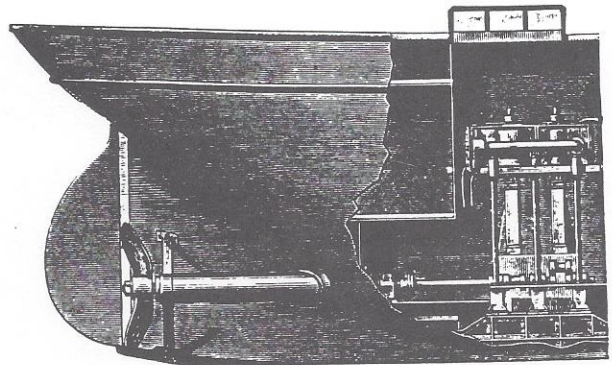
A wise person is strong; yes, a person of knowledge increases strength (Prov 24.5). You are the Creator of the ends of the earth. You give power to the faint; and to them that have no might You increase strength. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. (Isaiah 40.28-31)

I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. I wait on the Lord and am of good courage. He shall strengthen my heart. (Psalm 27.13,14) He has removed my soul far off from peace. I forgot prosperity, and I said, "My strength and hope is perished from the Lord." I remember my affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul has them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me. (Lam. 3.17-20) My soul melts for heaviness: strengthen me according to Your word (Ps 119.28). For You have said: Fear not; for I am with you: be not dismayed; for I am your God: I will strengthen you; yes, I will help you; yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness (Is. 41.10).

May God grant me, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man. (Eph. 3.16) May God grant that I increase in the knowledge of God, strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness. (Col. 1.10,11)

Lord, strengthen my soul that I may continue in the faith, persevering through tribulation. (Acts 14.22) I will praise You with my whole heart and worship You. In the day when I cry You answer me and strengthen me with strength in my soul. (Ps 138.1-3) Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You shall stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand shall save me. You perfect that which concerns me. Your mercy endures forever. Forsake not the works of Your own hands. (Psalm 138.7,8)

I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me (Phil. 4.13). I am strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might, and put on the whole armor of God. (Eph. 6.10,11) I overcome. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



A PRAYER TO BREAK GENERATIONAL CURSES

Holy Father,

You established Your covenant with Abraham, making of him a father of many nations, making him exceeding fruitful. Kings shall come out of him. You established Your covenant with him and succeeding generations as an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto Abraham and to his descendants after him, promising him Canaan as an everlasting possession (Genesis 17). You are the God of our fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

And to the children of Israel, as they hastened to leave Egypt, You gave instructions for the passover and the blood of the sacrificial lamb, saying, "when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt (Ex. 12.13)." You declared the day a memorial, a feast to the Lord throughout the generations (Ex. 12).

You are the LORD our God, which have brought Your people out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You have commanded us to have no other gods before You, to make no graven images or likenesses of created things (Ex. 20.1-4). You have said, "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments." (Ex 20.5,6)

You descended in the cloud and stood with Moses on Mount Sinai and passed by before Moses, proclaiming: "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation." (Ex 34.5-7)

O Lord, if we have found grace in Your sight, go among us and pardon our iniquity and our sin and take us for Your inheritance. Drive out the enemy and enable us to destroy our idols that we should worship no other god or make a covenant with them or sacrifice to them (Ex. 34.9-15).

Let the power of our Lord be great, according as You have spoken, saying, the Lord is longsuffering and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation (Numbers 14.17,18). Pardon our iniquity according unto the greatness of Your mercy and let all the earth be filled with the glory of the Lord (Num. 14.21).

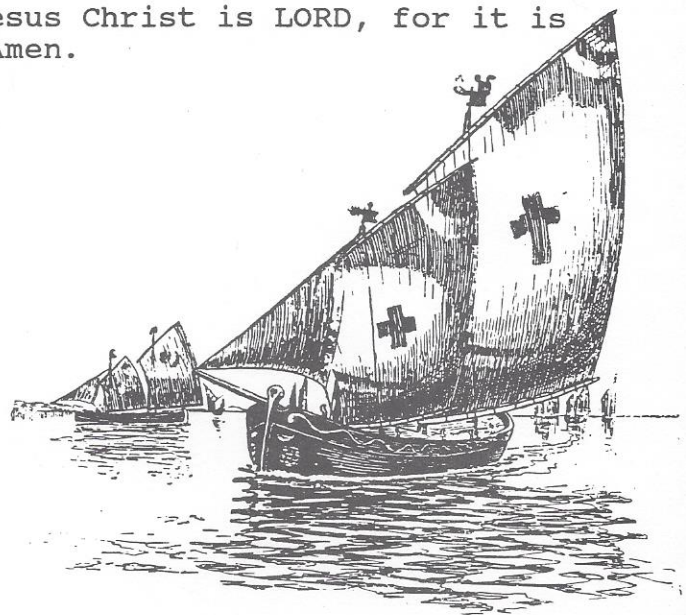
I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations (Psalm 89.1). You are the Lord our God; Your judgments are in all the earth. You have remembered Your covenant forever, the word which You commanded to a thousand generations. You gave signs and wonders. You remembered Your promise and brought forth Your people with joy that they might observe Your statutes and keep Your laws (Psalm 105).

O LORD, I thank You that I have been delivered from the power of darkness, redeemed through Jesus' blood, reconciled and no longer alienated (Colossians 1). As I have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so I walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him, established in the faith, abounding with thanksgiving. For I, being dead in sins, have been quickened together with Christ. He has forgiven me all trespasses, blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against me, contrary to me, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross. (Colossians 2) I set my affection on things above, for I am dead, and my life is hid with Christ in God (Col. 3.2,3).

I am of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that I should show forth the praises of Him who has called me out of darkness into His marvelous light. I am now of the people of God, having obtained mercy. (1 Peter 2.9,10) I will make Your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore shall the people praise You for ever and ever (Psalm 45.17).

In the name of Jesus Christ, whose I am and whom I serve, I now rebuke and break the power of all evil curses due to my own sin, iniquity, and transgression, or due to ancestors, or stemming from my culture or from witchcraft, occult or psychic sources or from familiar spirits, or from whatever source. I am forgiven and forgive all others, releasing them to the judgment of God. Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the law, being made a curse for me: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangs on a tree: that the blessing of Abraham might come to me through Jesus Christ; that I might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith (Gal. 3.13,14). I release myself and I am loosed from every curse...every curse...from the wrath of God, and from my sins by the precious blood of the Lamb (Rev. 1.5,6).

Thank You, Holy Father, that Jesus Christ is LORD, for it is in the name of Jesus that I pray. Amen.



A PRAYER FOR WISDOM IN SPEAKING

LORD,

Who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart. He that backbites not with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor. (Psalm 15.1-3) I say, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. (Psalm 39.1) Whoso offers praise glorifies You, Lord, and to the one that orders his conversation, his way, aright You show Your salvation. (Psalm 50.23)

In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and He heard me. Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue (Psalm 120.1,2). The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate. (Prov. 8.13)

I will meditate on all Your work, and talk of Your doings. (Psalm 77.12) With my lips have I declared all the judgments of Your mouth. Make me to understand the way of Your precepts: so shall I talk of Your wondrous works. I will speak of Your testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed. Your statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage. My tongue shall speak of Your word: for all Your commandments are righteousness. (Psalm 119.13, 27, 46, 54, 172)

Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips. (Psalm 141.3) I will speak of the glorious honor of Your majesty, and of Your wondrous works. I will declare Your greatness and the memory of Your great goodness. (Psalm 145.5-7)

I put away a froward mouth (Prov. 4.24). The mouth of a righteous one is a well of life: but violence covers the mouth of the wicked. To refrain my mouth from a multitude of words is wise. (Prov. 10.11, 19) As a person of understanding, I hold my peace. A talebearer reveals secrets: but I am of a faithful spirit and conceal the matter. (Prov. 11.12,13) As a prudent person I cover shame (Prov. 12.16). The lip of truth shall be established forever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment (Prov. 12.19). He that keeps his mouth keeps his life: but he that opens wide his lips shall have destruction. (Prov. 13.3) The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness. A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit. I have joy in the answer of my mouth and speak a word in due season. My words are pleasant words as from a pure heart, and I study to answer. (Prov. 15.2,4,23,26,28)

Whoso keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from troubles (Prov. 21.23). I open my mouth with wisdom and in my tongue is the law of kindness (Prov. 31.26). Out of the good treasure of my heart I bring forth good things, for I shall give account of every idle word. By my words I shall be justified, and by my words I shall be condemned (Matt. 12.34-37).

I do not speak evil of rulers and dignitaries (Acts 23.5); Jude 8) and put away deceit, maligning, backbiting, cursing, and bitterness (Romans 1.29; 3.14). I put away lying and let no corrupt communication proceed out of my mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. I put away all clamour and evil speaking (Eph. 4.25-31) together with filthiness and foolish talking, and jesting, which are not convenient, but rather give thanks (Eph. 5.4). I speak evil of no one and am not a brawler, but gentle, showing all meekness unto all people (Titus 3.2).

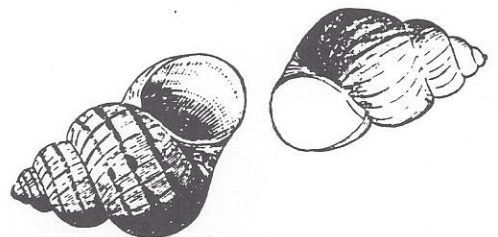
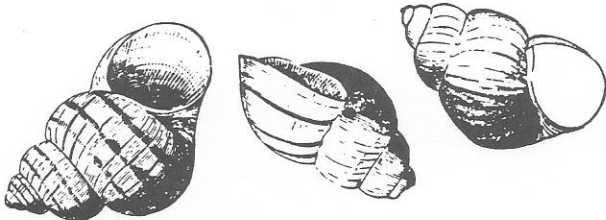
My tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity, and can defile the whole body and set on fire the course of nature. No one can tame the tongue, for with it one blesses God and curses men made after the similitude of God. (James 3.5-9) Rather than render evil for evil or railing for railing, I bless, knowing that I am thereunto called, that I should inherit a blessing. For I will love life and see good days by refraining my tongue from evil and by speaking no guile (1 Peter 3.9,10).

Death and life are in the power of the tongue (Prov. 18.21). Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer. (Psalm 19.12-14)

I will praise thee, O LORD my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore (Psalm 86.12). It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High: to show forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night (Psalm 92.1,2). My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise (Psalm 57.7). I will bless the LORD at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. (Psalm 34.1,2) I speak to myself in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in my heart to the Lord (Eph. 5.19). I offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of my lips giving thanks to His name. (Heb. 13.15)

Unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever (1 Tim. 1.17).

IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.



PRAISING GOD IN THE MIDST OF TRUSTING

Holy Father,

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God: How unsearchable are Your judgments and Your ways past finding out! Who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become Your counselor? Or who has first given to You and it shall be repaid? For of You, and through You and to You are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen. (Romans 11.33-36)

Indeed it was for my own peace that I had great bitterness; but You have lovingly delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, for You have cast all my sins behind Your back. For Sheol cannot thank You, death cannot praise You; those who go down to the pit cannot hope for Your truth. The living one shall praise You, as I do this day; and I shall make known Your truth to the children. (Isaiah 38.17-19)

You, My Father, are Source and Sustainer of all life, supplying and providing. I stand up and bless the LORD my God forever and ever! I bless Your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise! You alone are the LORD; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You. You are the LORD God. (Nehemiah 9.5-7)

And Jesus Christ, being the brightness of Your glory and the express image of Your person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they (Heb. 1.3,4). Jesus Christ has delivered me from the power of darkness and conveyed me into the kingdom of the Son of Your love, in whom I have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, for by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. He has the pre-eminence. (Col. 1.13-18)

And You, God, who made the world and everything in it, since You are Lord of heaven and earth, do not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor are You worshipped with men's hands, as though You needed anything, since You give to all life, breath, and all things. And You have made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and have determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being. (Acts 17.24-28)

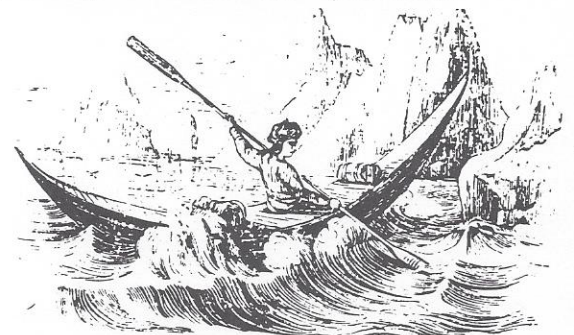
You rule and govern absolutely. Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; in Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. Therefore, I thank You and praise Your glorious name. All things come from You, and of Your own I have given You. Therefore, I present my offering to You willingly. (1 Chronicles 29.12-17)

I am urged to fight the good fight of faith in the sight of God who gives life to all things and before Christ Jesus, who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. (1 Timothy 6.12-16)

O, Lord, You bring all things to their appointed end. You spoke, and it was done; You commanded, and it stood fast. The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations. Behold the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy. Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon me, just as I hope in You. (Psalm 33.8-22)

You, O Lord, are holy and true. You have the key of David, and are He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens. (Rev. 3.7) I am not ashamed of the testimony of my Lord but share in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved me and called me with a holy calling, not according to my works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to me in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of my Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Though I may suffer, nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day. (2 Timothy 1.8-12)

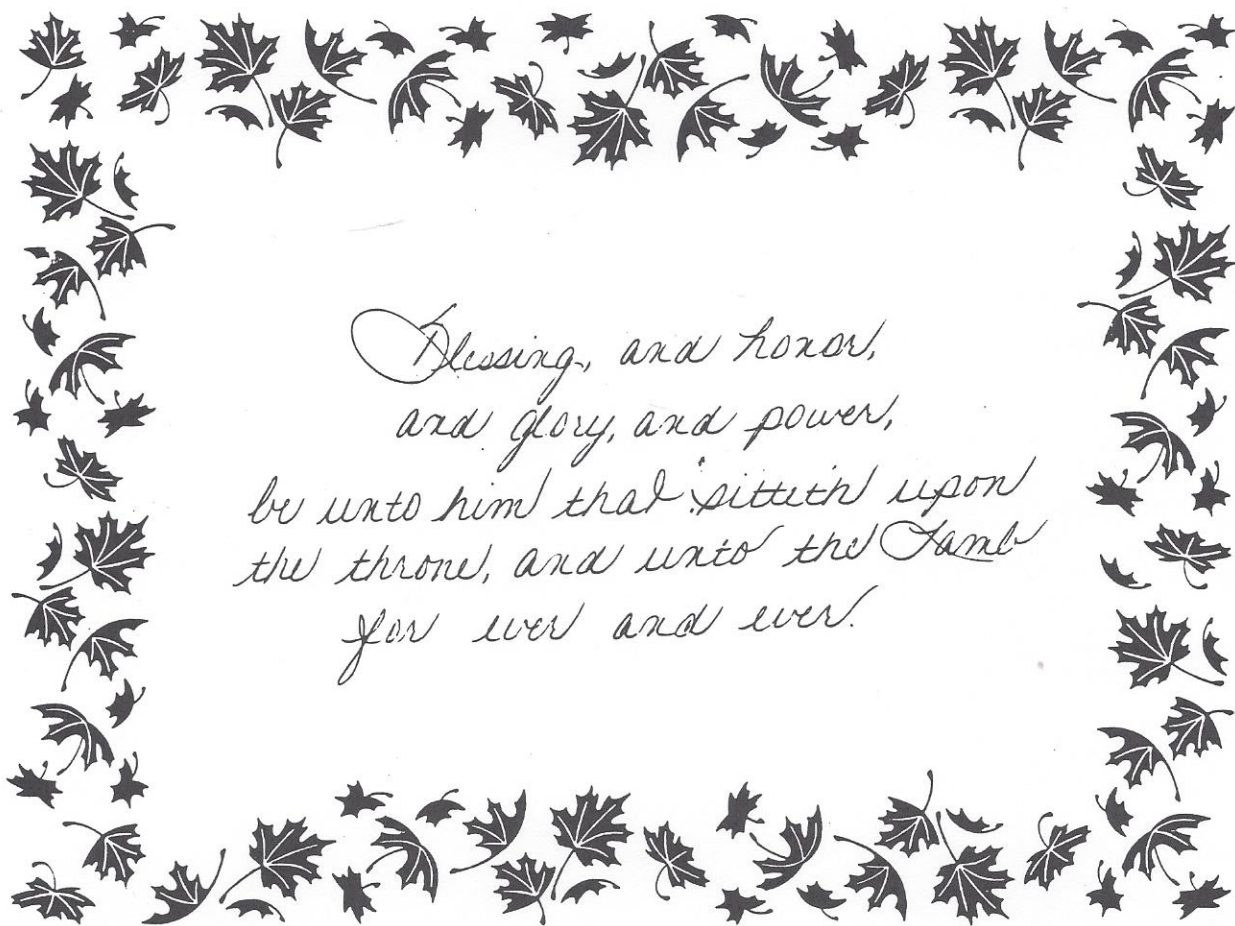
I bless You, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed me with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose me in Him before the foundation of the world, that I should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined me to adoption as a child by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made me accepted in the Beloved. (Ephesians 1.3-6) I am His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that I should walk in them. (Eph. 2.10) For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (Romans 8.29)



I rejoice always and pray without ceasing. In everything I give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for me. I hold fast to the good. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify me completely; and may my whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls me is faithful, who also will do it. (1 Thess. 5.16-24)

Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever. (Rev. 5.13)

In Jesus' Name, Amen.



*Blessing, and honor,
and glory, and power,
be unto him that sitteth upon
the throne, and unto the Lamb
for ever and ever.*

A PRAYER IN TIMES OF TRIALS AND TEMPTATION

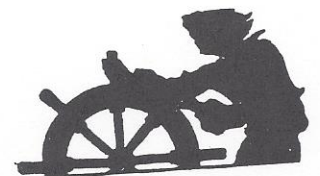
Holy Father,

I take heed to myself lest I fall. There has no temptation taken me but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer me to be tempted above that which I am able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that I may be able to bear it. Wherefore, I flee from idolatry (1 Cor. 10.12-14). I am joined unto the Lord and I am one spirit with Him. Therefore I flee fornication, knowing that my body is the temple of the Holy Ghost in me, which I have of God, and I am not my own. I am bought with a price: therefore I glorify God in my body, and in my spirit, which are God's (1 Cor. 6.17-20).

They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown people in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But I, the person of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. I fight the good fight of faith, laying hold on eternal life, whereunto I am also called, and I have professed a good confession before many witnesses. (1 Tim. 6.9-12)

Whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, I think on these things (Phil. 4.8). I count it all joy when I fall into divers temptations; knowing that the trying of my faith works patience. I let patience have its perfect work, that I may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. Blessed am I who endures temptation: for when I am tried, I shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love Him. I do not say that I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither does He tempt anyone. But every person is tempted when drawn away of his or her own lust, and enticed. Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death. No, every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variability, neither shadow or turning. (James 1.2-4; 12-17)

I offend not in word and seek the Lord to bridle my tongue. I am a wise person endued with knowledge, showing out of a good conversation (manner of life) my works with meekness of wisdom, the wisdom that is from above. This wisdom is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace. (James 3.2,3,13-18)



I wait patiently and establish my heart. I do not grumble. I endure and persevere. If I am suffering, I pray. (James 5.7-13) I know that friendship of the world is enmity with God and that whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. God resists the proud, but gives grace unto the humble. Therefore, I submit myself to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from me. I draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to me. I cleanse my hands and purify my heart. I am afflicted, and mourn, and weep. I let my laughter be turned to mourning, and my joy to heaviness. I humble myself in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift me up. I speak not evil one of another and do not judge, for there is one Lawgiver who is able to save and to destroy. (James 4.4-12)

I am elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. May grace and peace be multiplied unto me. I bless the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy has begotten me unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved in heaven for me. I am kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. I greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, I am in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of my faith, being much more precious than of gold that perishes, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1.2-7)

I love You, Jesus, and I believe. I receive the end of my faith, even the salvation of my soul. I gird up the loins of my mind and hope to the end for the grace to be brought unto me at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As He which has called me is holy, so I am holy in all manner of conversation. I know I was redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, whom God raised from the dead. My faith and hope are in God. I purify my soul in obeying the truth through the Spirit. I love others with a pure heart fervently. (1 Peter 1.13-25)

I abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul. I am part of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that I should show forth the praises of Him who has called me out of darkness into His marvelous light. I am one who has obtained mercy. (1 Peter 2.9-11)

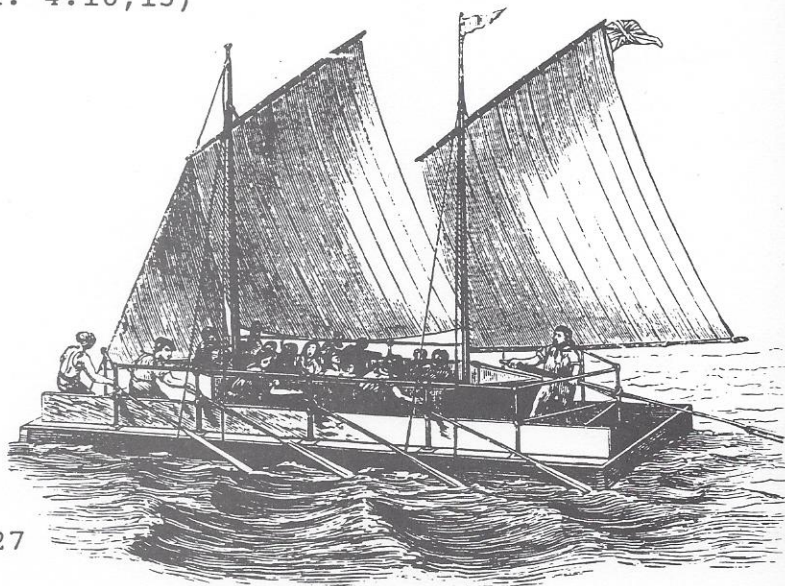
I do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try me, as though some strange thing happened to me. I rejoice, inasmuch as I am a partaker of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, I may be glad also with exceeding joy. If I am reproached for the name of Christ, I am happy, for the Spirit of glory and of God rest upon me. (1 Peter 4.12-14)

I hold myself in subjection and am clothed with humility, for God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble. I humble myself under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt me in due time. I resist Satan steadfast in the faith, for the God of all grace, who has called me unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that I have suffered awhile, makes me perfect, establishing, strengthening, and settling me. (1 Peter 5.5-10)

I choose to look unto Jesus the author and finisher of my faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. I consider Him that endured such contradiction (hostility) of sinners against Himself, lest I be wearied and faint in my mind. I have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. I do not despise the chastening of the Lord nor faint when I am rebuked of Him, for whom the Lord loves He chastens (makes chaste or pure). God deals with me as His child, and though now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness. So I lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make a straight path for my feet, that I may be healed. I follow peace and holiness, without which no one shall see the Lord. (Hebrews 12.2-14)

Finally, Holy Father, I lift up to You Psalms 26 and 27 as my prayer. I thank You that I am found in Christ, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death. And so I forget those things which are now behind me and reach forward unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 3.9-14) And I choose to stand in the confidence that He which has begun a good work in me will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ (Phil. 1.6). I confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father, and I work out my own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God which works in me both to will and to do of His good pleasure (Phil. 2.11-13). I rejoice in the Lord my God. I can do all things in Christ who is my strength. (Phil. 4.10,13)

IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.



THE PRAYER TO ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

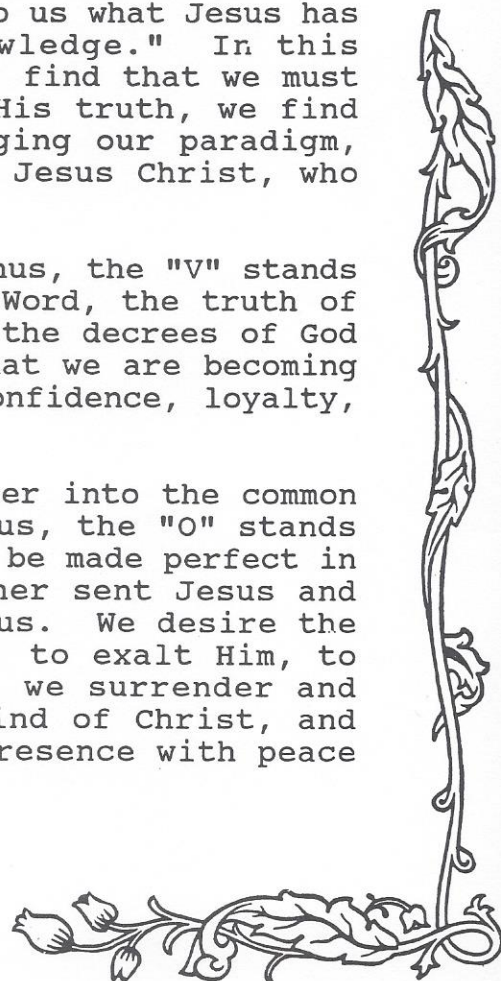
The prayer that follows is built upon the acrostic: FAVOR. It is out of God's unmerited favor toward us that we are enabled, through Jesus Christ, to come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy and to find grace and favor in our times of need.

First, we must be rooted and grounded in love. We must establish a strong foundation of faith in Christ. Thus, the "F" stands for "Foundation." If we want to be filled with all the fulness of God, then we must know the love of Christ which passes knowledge. This is the knowledge of relationship born out of revelation. We must desire relationship with God, an intimate "knowing," a oneness with Him. Such desire leads us to Him as the Source. We want Him, not merely His gifts and blessings. We want to bask in His presence and let the fulness of His being spill out upon us. We desire to enjoy Him for who He is in Himself, for we have become convinced of His worthiness. Thus, we desire to worship Him and glorify Him with our spiritual offerings.

Secondly, we acknowledge all that Jesus Christ has accomplished in the atonement for our benefit. We also acknowledge our covenant relationship with the Father through Jesus, His Son, and the work of the Holy Spirit, who applies to us what Jesus has accomplished. Thus, the "A" is for "Acknowledge." In this acknowledgment of all that God is, we likewise find that we must repent, for to align ourselves with God and His truth, we find ourselves repenting, changing our mind, changing our paradigm, changing our ways to conform to the image of Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us.

Thirdly, we declare victory in Christ. Thus, the "V" stands for "Victory." We declare the truth of God's Word, the truth of Satan's destruction, the truth of the gospel, the decrees of God that must surely come to pass. We proclaim that we are becoming what God has declared us to be. We confess confidence, loyalty, faith, in the overcoming power of Christ.

Then, in this position of victory, we enter into the common union, the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Thus, the "O" stands for "Oneness." We enter into Jesus' prayer to be made perfect in oneness that the world may know that the Father sent Jesus and has loved us even as the Father has loved Jesus. We desire the love of the Spirit for Jesus, to lift Him up, to exalt Him, to glorify Jesus. In this position of oneness, we surrender and yield to the heart of the Holy Spirit, the mind of Christ, and the will of the Father. And we rest in the presence with peace and with joy.



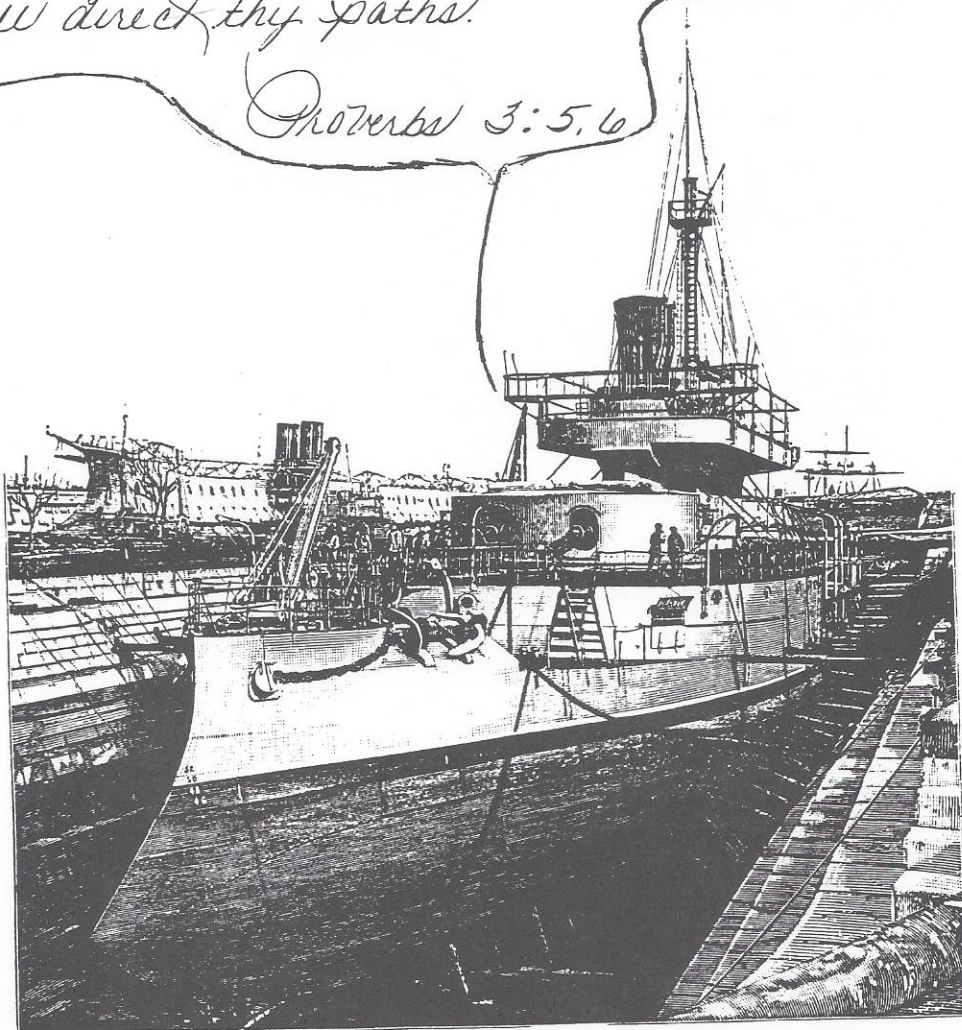
Finally, we reap in our relationship with the Father through Christ. The "R," therefore, stands for "Reaping." We trust in a quiet confidence of soul, in a repentance and rest that brings strength. We reap of the richness of God's glory, knowing that as we walk, we reflect the glory of His presence as carriers of it. We are enriched and sense the bountifulness of God, and we come to appreciate that because He is, we have. We reap the fruit of the Spirit, as in approaching His presence, we are made willing to be separated from sin, self, and things satanic, things of the world, the flesh, and the devil, unto God. Out of separation comes union with God. Out of union with God shines forth the worthiness of Christ.

May His favor be with you today.

*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;
and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

*In all thy ways acknowledge him, and
he shall direct thy paths!*

Proverbs 3:5, 6



ENTERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Holy Father,

I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that You might grant me, according to the riches of Your glory, to be strengthened with might by Your Spirit in my inner being; that Christ may dwell in my heart by faith; that I, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge, that I might be filled with all the fulness of God (Eph. 3.14-19). I am no more a stranger and foreigner, but a fellow citizen with the saints and of the household of God, and I am built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together grows unto a holy temple in the Lord, in whom I also am built together for a habitation of God through the Spirit (Eph. 2.19-22).

I will bless the Lord, who has given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons. I have set the Lord always before me: because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. You show me the path of life: in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (Psalm 16.7,8,11)

I love You, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from my enemies. (Psalm 18.1-3)

As I have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so I walk in Him: rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith, as I have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. In Christ dwells all the fulness of the Godhead bodily and I am complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power. (Col. 2.6-10)

I delight in the law of the Lord and meditate therein day and night. I am like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth fruit in season. My leaf also does not wither, and whatsoever I do prospers (Psalm 1.2,3). I am as the upright one, dwelling in the land, but the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it (Proverbs 2.21,22). Jesus Christ is the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star (Rev. 22.16) and I am His. I am as the good ground receiving, hearing, and understanding the word, bearing fruit, and bringing forth a hundredfold return (Matt. 13.23). I sow to myself in righteousness and reap in mercy; I break up my fallow ground, for it is time to seek the Lord til He come and rain righteousness upon me (Hosea 10.12).

Father God, grant me repentance to the acknowledging of the truth that I may recover myself out of the snare of the devil, who seeks to take me captive at his will (2 Tim. 2.25,26). I rend my heart, and not my garments, and I turn unto the Lord my God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness (Joel 2.13). I repent and turn from idols and turn away my face from all abominations (Ezekiel 14.6). I turn from vanities unto the living God, who made heaven and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein (Acts 14.15).

Holy Father, open my eyes and turn me from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God that I may receive forgiveness of sins and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith (Acts 26.18). Let me hate evil and do good; let me seek peace and pursue it (1 Peter 3.11). I thought on my ways, and I turn my feet unto Your testimonies. I made haste and did not delay to keep Your commandments (Psalm 119.59,60). I turn to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, who delivers me from the wrath to come (1 Thess. 1.9,10). I renounce Satan, for I am born of God and for this purpose the Son of God was manifested that He might destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3.8).

Will You not revive me again that I may rejoice in You? Show me Your mercy, O Lord, and grant me Your salvation (Psalm 85.6,7). Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence; and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation; and uphold me with Your free Spirit (Psalm 51.7-12). I wait upon the Lord and renew my strength; I mount up with wings as eagles and run and am not weary and walk and do not faint (Isaiah 40.31). Though my outward being may perish, yet the inward being is renewed day by day (2 Cor. 4.16). The new being which I have put on is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created me (Col. 3.10). I present my body a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is my reasonable service, and I am not conformed to this world, but I am transformed by the renewing of my mind, that I may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. (Romans 12.1,2) For it is not by works of righteousness which I have done, but according to His mercy that He saved me, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost, which He shed on me abundantly through Jesus Christ my Savior (Titus 3.5,6).



Though all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, I am being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God, that He might be just, and the justifier of me as I believe in Jesus (Romans 3.23-26). I being dead in my sins has God quickened together with Christ, having forgiven me all trespasses; blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against me, which was contrary to me, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross; and having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it. (Col. 2.13-15) I give thanks to the Father, who has made me meet to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light; who has delivered me from the power of darkness, and has translated me into the kingdom of His dear Son; in whom I have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins. In the body of Christ's flesh through death, He has reconciled me to present me holy and unblamable and unreprouvable in His sight if I continue in the faith grounded and settled, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel which I have heard (Col. 1.12-14; 20-23).

Father of glory, may You give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Christ, open the eyes of my understanding that I may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward me who believes, according to the working of His mighty power, wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come (Eph. 1.17-21).

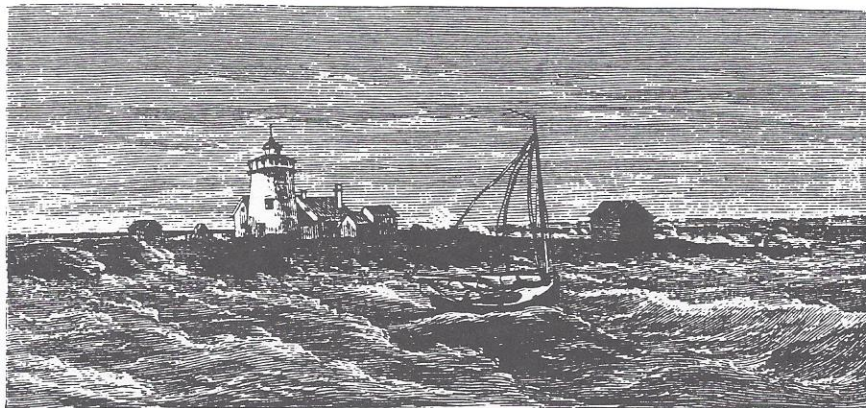
I cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light (Romans 13.12). I walk honestly as in the day and put on the Lord Jesus Christ, making no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts (Romans 13.13,14). I put on the whole armor of God that I may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for I wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore I take unto myself the whole armor of God, that I may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. I stand, having my loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness, and my feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, and I take the shield of faith to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked, and the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. I pray always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit and watch with all perseverance (Eph. 6.11-18).

I have the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who dwells with me and is in me (John 14.16,17). I through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body and live. I am led by the Spirit of God and have received the Spirit of adoption whereby I cry, Abba, Father. I am more than a conqueror through Him that loved me, and I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus my Lord (Romans 8.13-39).

My faith stands not in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. I have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God, that I might know the things that are freely given to me of God, which things also I speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Ghost teaches, comparing spiritual with spiritual. I have the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 2)

I have victory. God's wrath is propitiated. Satan's power is destroyed. I am forgiven, delivered, released from sin and guilt, redeemed, and reconciled.

I walk worthy of the vocation wherewith I am called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing others in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, for there is one body, and one Spirit, even as I am called in one hope of my calling...one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all (who believe) (Eph. 4.1-6). My body is the member of Christ, and one who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him (1 Cor. 6.15-17). My body is the temple of the Holy Ghost and I am not my own for I am bought with a price, therefore I glorify God in my body, and in my spirit, which are God's (1 Cor. 6.19,20). I am made perfect in oneness that the world may know that the Father has sent Jesus and has loved me as the Father has loved Jesus (John 17.23).



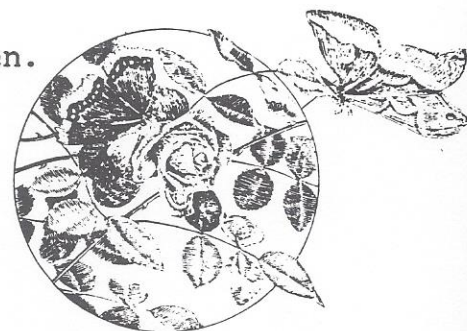
I reap in my relationship with the Father through Christ. I trust in the living God, who gives me richly all things to enjoy and do good that I may be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up in store for myself a good foundation against the time to come, that I may lay hold on eternal life (1 Timothy 6.17-19). I abound in everything, in faith, in utterance, in knowledge, in grace. God is able to make all grace abound toward me, that I always having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work. I am enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which causes me to thank God. (1 Cor. 9) I partake of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust, and add to my faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, love that I am neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of my Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1.4-7). I reap the fruit of the Spirit which is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, having crucified the flesh with its affections and lusts and living in the Spirit (Gal. 5.22-25). I live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and my Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for me (Titus 2.12,13).

I build up myself in my most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keeping myself in the love of God, looking for the mercy of my Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And now unto Him that is able to keep me from falling, and to present me faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen. (Jude 20-25)

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created (Rev. 4.11). Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. (Rev. 5.12,13)

Therefore, I have come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy, and to find grace and favor in my time of need (Heb. 4.16). I draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having my heart sprinkled from an evil conscience, and my body washed with pure water. (Heb. 10.22) Because You are with me, O Lord, I find favor with You and with people. You are my God and my Lord, and I am Yours. Jesus Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. I am blessed as I do His commandments, that I may have right in the tree of life, and enter in. I take the water of life freely. Surely, You come quickly, Lord Jesus, and Your grace is with me (Rev. 22).

In the Name of Jesus, the Faithful and True, Amen.



PRAYING AGAINST EVIL

Holy Father,

You set before Your people in the covenant made with Moses life and good, and death and evil in that You commanded them to love You, the Lord God, to walk in Your ways, and to keep Your commandments, statutes, and judgments, that Your people might live and multiply and that You might bless them in the land. You also said that if the hearts of Your people turn away, so that they will not hear, but they would be drawn away and worship other gods to serve them that You would denounce them and they would surely perish. You set before Your people life and death, blessing and cursing and commanded them to choose life. Father, help me to obey Your voice and cleave to You, for You are my life, and the length of my days. (Deut. 30)

Lord, let me fear You and serve You in sincerity and in truth; and put away the gods which my fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt (Joshua 24.14). The Lord shall reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness (2 Sam. 3.39). Oh, Lord, let me fear You with godly reverence and fear, for You bring evil upon a place and its inhabitants when they have forsaken You and provoked You to anger to kindle Your wrath (2 Kings 22.16,17; 2 Chron. 34.24).

Forgive me, O God, for the evil in my heart. Let me not render evil for evil, or railing for railing, but blessing, knowing that I am called that I should inherit a blessing. Let me love life and see good days, refraining my tongue from evil and my lips from speaking guile. Let me hate evil and do good. Let me seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil. So let me sanctify the Lord God in my heart and refrain from all appearance of evil. (1 Peter 3) O God, grant me grace and favor through the blood of Jesus.

Let me take heed lest there be in me an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God (Heb. 3.12). Rather, grant unto me remission of my sins and boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. Let me draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having my heart sprinkled from an evil conscience and my body washed with pure water. Let me hold fast the profession without wavering; for He is faithful that promised. (Heb. 10)

I thank You that I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. I thank You that I am forgiven, redeemed, delivered from Your wrath and curse. I thank You that I am clothed with the righteousness of Christ. Let me depart from evil, and do good; let me seek peace and pursue it. For evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate. The Lord

redeems the soul of His servants; and none of them that trust in Him shall be desolate. (Psalm 34)

O Lord, let the wicked be taken in the devices that they have imagined. Break the arm of the wicked and evil person: seek out his wickedness till You find none and let them oppress no more. (Psalm 10) Behold, God is my helper: the Lord is with them that uphold my soul. He shall reward evil unto mine enemies: cut them off in thy truth. (Psalm 54.4,5) When I cry unto You, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me. In God will I praise His word: in the Lord will I praise His word. In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me. Deliver my feet from falling that I may walk before You in the light of the living. (Psalm 55)

Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel person, for You are my hope and my trust (Psalm 71.4,5). O satisfy us early with Your mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad according to the days wherein You have afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish the work of our hands (Psalm 90.14-17).

O Lord, Most High, You are my refuge and my habitation and I have set my love upon You. Let no evil befall me nor any plague come nigh my dwelling, but give Your angels charge over me to keep me in all Your ways. (Psalm 91) The Lord is my keeper. He shall preserve me from all evil: He shall preserve my soul (Psalm 121.5,7). Deliver me from the evil person. Keep and preserve me, for You are my God. Hear the voice of my supplications. O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have covered my head in the day of battle. Do not grant the desires of the wicked and do not promote his evil devices lest he be exalted. Let not an evil speaker be established in the earth: evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow him. I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and the right of the poor. The righteous give thanks unto Your name. The upright dwell in Your presence. (Psalm 140)

Lord, let me know Your ways, for You have said in Jeremiah 18 that if a nation against whom You have pronounced, turn from their evil, You will repent of the evil that You thought to do unto them. And at what instant You shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; if it do evil in Your sight, that it obey not Your voice, then You will repent of the good, wherewith You said You would benefit them. So, Lord grant me repentance that I might turn from evil and make my ways and my doings good.



The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate. (Prov. 8.13) Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counselors of peace is joy. There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief. (Prov. 12.20,21)

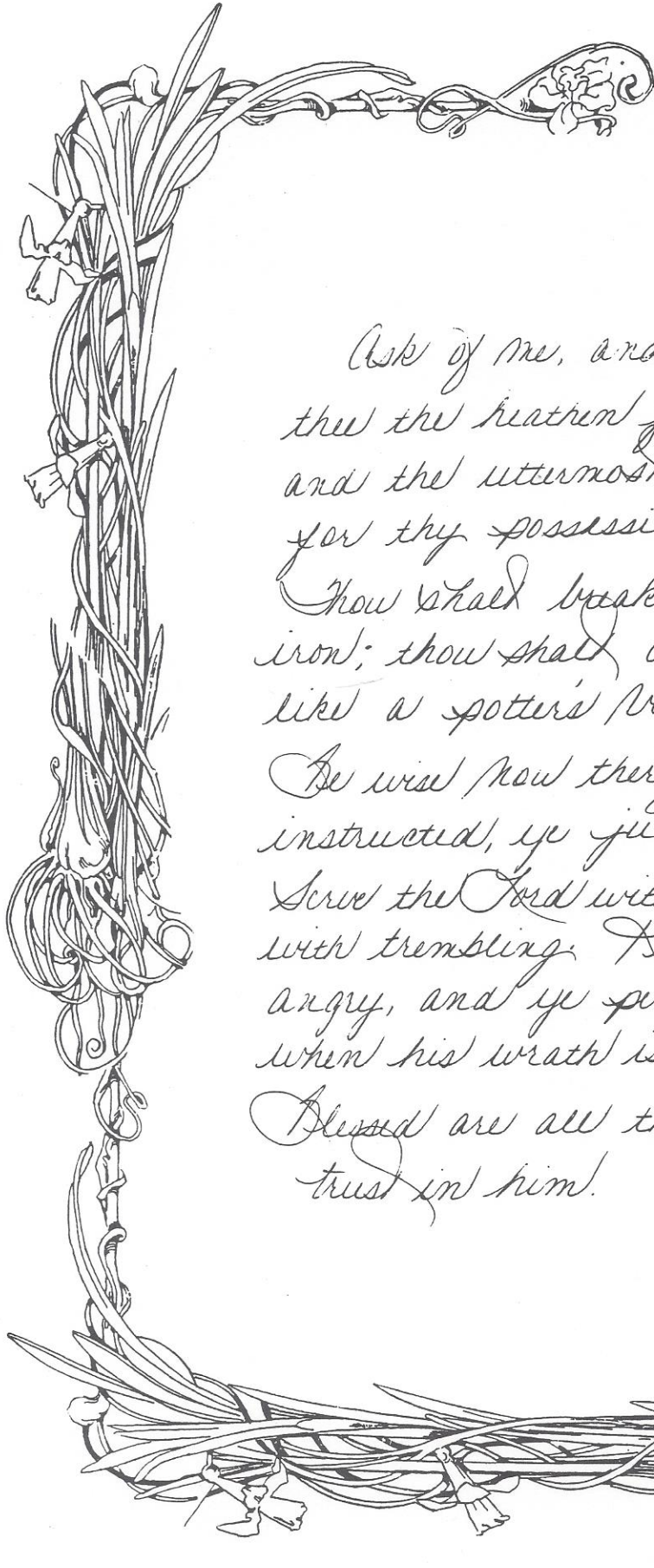
Father, let grace and peace be unto me from You and from our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for my sins, that He might deliver me from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (Gal. 1.4,5) Lord, deliver me from the evil one. In Jesus Name, Amen.

- Psalm 2 -

Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying,

Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. If they sit in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.



Ask of me, and I shall give
thee the heathen for thine inheritance,
and the uttermost parts of the earth
for thy possession.

Thou shalt break them with a rod of
iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces
like a potter's vessel.

Be wile now therefore, O ye kings: be
instructed, ye judges of the earth.

Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice
with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be
angry, and ye perish from the way,
when his wrath is kindled but a little.

Blessed are all they that put their
trust in him.

A PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY

Holy Father,

You promised Abram: "I will bless them that bless thee and curse him that curses thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." (Gen. 12.3) And You said in Galatians 3.7, 26-29: "Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. For ye are all children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Father, You have said to have no other gods before You and not to make graven images, to worship or serve them, for You are a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate You; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love You, and keep Your commandments. (Ex. 20.3-6) You have also said: Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: and you shall love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. (Deut. 6.4-7) You have said: There shall not be found among you any one that makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that uses divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God does drive them out from before you. (Deut. 18.10-12)

Father, I come to You in the name of Jesus Christ, my Savior and Lord, and lift up before the throne of Your grace, my family, that we might obtain mercy and find grace and favor in our time of need. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we might follow Your ways and keep Your commandments. Oh, that people would praise the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men (Ps 107.15). I fear the LORD and trust in the LORD. He is my help and shield. Be mindful of us, O Lord, and bless our household, for You bless those that fear the LORD, both small and great, and You increase us more and more, us and our children. We are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth. (Psalm 115.11-15)

I praise You and delight greatly in Your commandments. My descendants shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endures forever. For him, light

arises in the darkness. Lord, let me be gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous. (Psalm 112.1-4)

You have promised those who fear You and walk in Your ways that we shall eat the labor of our hands and will be happy, that it shall be well with us. The wife in this family will be fruitful and the children like olive plants. (Psalm 128.1-3) Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Indeed, children are a heritage of the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is his reward. (Psalm 127)

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Let the members of this family hear the instruction of our fathers and not forsake the law of our mothers. (Proverbs 1.7,8) Let the heart of the husband trust in his wife, and let the wife do him good and not evil all the days of her life. Let the wife look well to the ways of her household and not be idle; and let her children rise up and call her blessed while her husband also praises her. (Proverbs 31.11,12,27,28)

Jesus, You have commanded us to love one another as You have loved us, for by this all people will know that we are Your disciples. (John 13.34,35) Let love be without dissimulation. Enable us to abhor evil and cleave to the good. Enable us to be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. (Rom. 12.9-13) Love works no ill, does no harm, to one's neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (Rom. 13.10)

Let the strong in our family bear the infirmities of the weak, and not please ourselves. Let us please others for their good to edification. Lord, may we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures have hope. Grant us to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus that we may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant us grace to receive one another as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. (Rom. 15.1-7)

Let us, by love, serve one another, not biting and devouring one another, but taking heed that we be not consumed one of another. Grant us grace to walk in the Spirit and not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Let us not be desirous of vainglory, provoking one another, envying one another, but grant us meekness to restore those overtaken in a fault. Enable us to bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. (Gal. 5.13-16,26; Gal. 6.1,2)

With all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, let us forbear one another in love. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of our mouths, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. Help us

not to grieve the Holy Spirit, but rather to be kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us. (Eph. 4.2,29-32)

Let us not be drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit. As we go about our day, let us sing and make melody in our hearts to the Lord, giving thanks always, submitting ourselves one to another in the fear of God. Let the wife submit to her husband as unto the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife as Christ, the church. Let the husband love his wife as Christ loved the church, and gave himself for it, loving her as he loves his own body, for the husband that loves his wife loves himself. Let a man leave his father and mother and be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. Let the husband love his wife as himself; and let the wife respect her husband. (Eph. 5)

Father, grant the children grace to obey their parents in the Lord, for this is right. Let them honor their father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with them, and they may live long on the earth. Grant that the father in this household will not provoke his children to wrath, frustrating them to anger and rebellion, but rather, that he will bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. (Eph. 6.1-4) — In meekness, let each esteem the others better than themselves, looking not merely to his own personal interests, but also to others'. Enable us to be like Jesus, who took the form of a servant and made Himself of no reputation in all humility. (Phil. 2.3-7)

Let us put on, as the elect of God, holy and loved by You, Father, bowels of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering, that we might forbear one another and forgive one another even as Christ forgave us. Let this family put on love and grant that the peace of God might rule in our hearts. (Col. 3)

Grant that our adornment might be that of meek and quiet spirits. If any husband not obey the word, let him be able to see his wife's chaste way of life, and let her not fear nor be intimidated, but trust in God. Let husbands give honor to wives, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that their prayers be not hindered. And let all be of one mind, having compassion one of another, being courteous, blessing each other. Let each sanctify the Lord God in his or her heart. (1 Peter 3.1-8,15) Lord, sanctify the members of this household for the sake of the believing member. (1 Cor. 7)

Lord, let our children walk in truth that we might have great joy (3 John 2). Let us keep ourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life (Jude 21). Help this family to walk in love and witness to the grace of God with power. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all. Amen. (Rev. 22.21)

A PRAYER FOR LIFE

My Heavenly Father,

Teach me the sacredness of life. Let me honor those in authority, my parents, that my days might be well and I might have long life (Ex. 20.12; Deut 5.16; Deut. 4.40; 22.7). Lord, our days on the earth are as a shadow (1 Chron. 29.15) and none can keep alive his own soul (Ps 22.29). Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am (Ps. 39.4). Teach me to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wisdom (Ps 90.12). I ask life of You, and pray You might give it to me, even length of days for ever and ever (Ps 21.4).

Preserve my going out and my coming in (Ps 121.8). I believe in Jesus and want to drink of the water of life. Grant that I may have a well of water in me springing up into everlasting life (John 4.14). Let me labor for the meat which endures unto everlasting life (Jn 6.27). Let me eat of the bread of life (Jn 6.51). Jesus, You came that we might have life. Let me hear Your voice and follow You that You might give me eternal life. (Jn 10.10,27) I know that His commandment is life everlasting (Jn 12.50).

This is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent (Jn 17.3). Oh, Lord, as sin has reigned unto death, even so let grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ my Lord (Rom. 5.21). I am being made free from sin to become a servant to God, having my fruit unto holiness. The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Rm 6.22,23)

Let me sow not to the flesh so as to reap corruption, but let me sow to the Spirit to reap of the Spirit life everlasting (Gal. 6.8). My Savior, Jesus Christ, has abolished death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (2 Tim. 1.10). For what shall it profit me if I shall gain the whole world, and lose my own soul? What shall I give in exchange for my soul? (Mk 8.36,37)

God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that has the Son has life; and he that has not the Son of God has not life. Give me understanding that I may know Him that is true; and grant that I be in Him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. (1 John 5.11-13, 20)

Lord Jesus, You are He that lives, and was dead; and behold, You are alive for evermore, Amen. and have the keys of hell and of death. (Rev. 1.18) Preserve me in the way, for You are the way, the truth and the life. (John 14.6) In Your name, Amen.

