

## ***“Lord, teach us to pray”***

Notes for “Daily Prayer, Scriptural and Ancient”

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### **1. The Foundation of prayer: the Intercessions of the Spirit**

- ✓ “When you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words.” **Matthew 6:7**
- ✓ “The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us ...<sup>27</sup> And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.” **Romans 8:26-27**

### **2. Collect for Purity. 11<sup>th</sup> century, then 16<sup>th</sup> century. “Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of my heart ...”**

- ✓ 14<sup>th</sup> century English version. “God, unto whom alle hertes ben open, and unto whom alle wille spekith, and unto whom no privé thing is hid: I beseche thee so for to clense the entent of myn heart with the unspekable gift of thi grace that I may parfiteliche love thee, and worthilich preise thee. Amen.”
- ✓ “The LORD looks down from heaven;  
he sees all the children of man;  
<sup>14</sup> from where he sits enthroned he looks out  
on all the inhabitants of the earth,  
<sup>15</sup> he who fashions the hearts of them all  
and observes all their deeds.” **Psalm 33:13-19**
- ✓ “The LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.’” **1 Samuel 16:6-7**

### **3. Confession of Sin. Psalm 51**

- ✓ **Personal culpability:** “I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.” v. 3
  - “Against you, you only, have I sinned ...” v. 4
  - “Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity ...” v. 5
  - “... justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.” v. 4
  - “You delight in truth in the inward being ... teach me wisdom in the secret heart.” v. 6
- ✓ **Consequences and the Necessity of Grace:** “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy ...” v. 1
  - “Purge me ... wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.” v. 7
  - “Hide your face from my sins ...” v. 9
  - “Cast me not away ... and take not your Holy Spirit from me.” v. 11

- ✓ **“Salvation belongs to our God”:** Revelation 7:10.
  - *“Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.” v. 8*
  - *“Create in me a clean heart ... Renew a right spirit within me ... Restore to me the joy of your salvation ... Uphold me with a willing spirit.” v. 10, 12*

#### 4. Declaration of Forgiveness. Psalm 103

- ✓ **The Lord’s attributes:**
  - *“The LORD is merciful and gracious; slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love ...” v. 8*
  - *“As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him ...” v. 11*
- ✓ **The Lord’s grace extends to and embraces sinners.**
  - *“He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us ...” v. 10*
  - *“As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion ...” v. 13*
  - *“He knows our frame; he remembers that we are but dust ...” v. 14*
  - *“As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.” v 12*

#### 5. Prayer for the saints: for those who have been regenerated, so that they might grow in grace and holiness.

- ✓ Knowledge of God’s will.
- ✓ Christ-like living
- ✓ Fruit bearing
- ✓ Deeper knowledge of God’s person
- ✓ Strength to live your calling
- ✓ A heart of gratitude for your inheritance

#### 6. Prayer to desire the Lord: for those who have not been regenerated and need the desire to seek Him.

- ✓ *“O Lord our God, grant \_\_\_\_\_ grace to desire You with \_\_\_\_\_ whole heart; that so desiring You, \_\_\_\_\_ may seek and find You ...”*
- ✓ *“By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,<sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” Ephesians 2:8*

#### 7. Prayer before reading God’s Word: IOUS

#### 8. Journaling.

#### 9. Benediction from Hebrews 13:21-22. *“May the God ... equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight ...”*

- ✓ *“Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,<sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.” Philippians 2:12-13.*