Your Spirit

Daily Manna

For

Volume 12

A Collection of "Today's Manna"

By Pastor Duane A. Barrett Sr.

> Compiled & Edited by Robert Farmer

Cover Photo by Jordan D. Ewing

Daily Manna For Your

Spirit

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Foreword

Daily Manna is a "Heart Felt - Spirit Led" Devotional that is considered easy to read and designed to encourage, uplift and challenge the reader.

You will be refreshed with the Lord's strength and renewed with joy as you learn how to enjoy a life with God through these daily prayers and apply them to your daily lives.

These Compilations of Daily Manna Devotions will inspire you with hope and gratitude as you lay down your cross and listen to God's still small voice while falling in love with Him all over again.

I have known Pastor Duane for years. He is gifted to teach a simple, balanced, uncompromised, Word of God in a manner that all can grasp easily and this would also make this a perfect gift to the loved ones in your life.

Bob Farmer

CHAPTERS

Chapter 1 I will not leave you orphans, I will come to you!

Chapter 2 Do you have the peace that passes all understanding?

Chapter 3 Have you answered the call?

Chapter 4 Cleanse yourself with the Word of God!

Chapter 5 Who are you following?

Chapter 6 Can you live on bread alone?

Chapter 7 What is the light that guides your life?

Chapter 8 Do you seek first God and His Kingdom in all you do?

Chapter 9 Have you experienced the healing waters of the river of God?

Chapter 10 Are you in the River of God yet?

Chapter 11 Do you know the Friend of sinners?

Chapter 12 Do you know the Redeemer personally?

Chapter 13 Do you have access to the Grace of God?

Chapter 14 Have you received the Grace of God?

Chapter 15 Are you represented by the Great Lawyer

Chapter 16 Do you truly understand forgiveness?

Chapter 17 Did you know we are not to be Judges?

Chapter 18 Jesus is the Great Reconciler!

Chapter 19 Did you know we are to love our enemies?

Chapter 20 Probably one of God's best promises.

Chapter 21 Do you ever wonder what you need to wear to that special meeting?

Chapter 22 Whose counsel do you call upon for guidance in your daily life?

Chapter 23 Cleanse yourself with the Word of God!

Chapter 24 Have you answered the call?

Chapter 25 Do you show the fruit of God's love in your life?

Chapter 26 Giving thanks always, there is always a reason to give thanks!

Chapter 27 Believe it or not, one day you will bow your knee to God.

Chapter 28 Are you eating the right kind of spiritual

food?

Chapter 29 Are you Holy before God?

Chapter 30 Can you worship God in and from the spirit?

I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you!

 \mathcal{J}_f you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

--John 14:15-18 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

h, how Jesus loves to do good things for us. For those who believe in Him. Notice that He was talking to believers and not the unsaved. He said He would send another Helper. A helper, the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter, the Counselor, The Guide, the Teacher, The Holy Spirit. Jesus made sure we would not be alone. He had the Father send us back not just a good gift, but the best gift! A gift that the world, those who have not made Jesus their Lord, cannot receive, know, or see. But we have Him, He dwells in us so that we are not alone (orphans). He is the promise that Jesus will return for us in that "Great Day"!

Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? There is another gift of the Holy Spirit subsequent to the new birth. Many have not received this, because they either do not know about Him or they have been taught wrong.

MY PRAYER...

Precious Lord Jesus, Thank You for sending us the Holy Spirit. Thank You for not leaving us alone, but instead giving us a Helper, a Comforter, a guide, and a Counselor.

Thank You Lord for sending the Spirit of Truth to lead and to guide us until You return for us. Thank You Father that on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit was given for all those who would believe and those who receive will be baptized in fire and with power.

In the name of Jesus, Lord I give You all glory and honor.

Do you have the peace that passes all understanding?

 \mathcal{L} et the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Colossians 3:15 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

eace - wouldn't it be wonderful to always have total peace in everything you did or said? Through Jesus, we can have true peace (shalom) - wellness in body, soul, and spirit. His relationships with others, His victory over sin, death and the grave insures that we can have that peace, too!

So as we receive the Spirit of Christ into our hearts, we can live with our brothers and sisters, no- matter how flawed we may be, in a state of peace and love.

Peace that passes all understanding, peace that comes only from having a daily relationship with Jesus. Besides, as Paul changes metaphors on us in the last part of the verse, we are the Body of Christ and of course a body does not want to be at war with itself.

So live in peace and love with others, and do so with thanksgiving in your hearts, getting our strength and peace from our relationship with God through Jesus our Lord! Because we know Christ Jesus is, "The Truth, The Way, and The Life." There is no other way!

MY PRAYER...

Bessed Father of all believers, please help me to change my heart so that I can love Your people as You do. I know that as the character of Jesus permeates my life, I will appreciate the preciousness of each of Your children more and will come to see those difficult family members as the grit out of which You will fashion my pearl.

I pray that You will continue to give me grace and peace until my heart matches my commitment to love all of Your children just as You love each of them. Through the Blood of Jesus I pray.

Have you answered the call?

God has saved us and called us to a holy life -- not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

2 Timothy 1:9 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Before the beginning of time! How do we understand when that was? God first thought of us at a time we cannot even relate to or begin to understand! Before we were formed in our mother's womb!

His reason for thinking of us was to demonstrate His grace and to call others to His side.

Jesus has always been God's plan, and we have always been his goal. Let's make sure we respond by receiving His son Jesus as our Lord and by living that holy life that He has called us to! It doesn't mean I'm better than you and it isn't something that is unattainable (except without Christ).

To be holy means to be consecrated unto God AND set apart from the world and it's immoral, unethical ways.

It is God's power working in your daily life. To give yourself totally unto God body, soul, and spirit; to give Him your heart! To let Him lead and direct your life day to day, minute by minute.

MY PRAYER...

Thank You so much, Father, for knowing me and thinking of my needs, even before there was a world. I dedicate this day to Your honor and pledge to live a life that reflects Your righteousness and grace.

Only through the grace You have given me and the power of Your Holy Spirit residing in me will this be possible.

For I know that I can of my own self do nothing. But Father, today, I once again consecrate myself to You, I separate myself from the things of this world and devote myself unto the things of You. Through Jesus, the one who had no sin, I pray. Amen.

Cleanse yourself with the Word of God!

Whash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes! Cease to do evil. Learn to do right! Seek justice, relieve the oppressed, and correct the oppressor. Defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Isaiah 1:16-17 Amplified Bible

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

God is telling us to wash ourselves and be clean. He is saying take My Word and cleanse the worldly unmoral things from yourself by the washing of water of the Word of God and by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost in our lives.

Get the world and its filth and lies and immorality out of your lives you who call yourselves Christians! Learn to love the people (God is Love), but help them cease to do the evil things that they do. Do you find it easy just to tell those in need what God has done for them or do you help them with what you can? Do you become God's hands and feet and help them? God wants us not to get so caught up in talking about Him and celebrating His deeds that we forget we're supposed to care for others like He does.

Whether it is Jesus defining His ministry in Luke 4:18-19 or James talking about the kind of godliness that pleases God (James 1:26-27), we must realize true faith is treating others as God would. Being God's Ambassadors here on Earth.

MY PRAYER...

Almighty God of all comfort, open my eyes today that I might see those who need Your love and give me the attentiveness, the time, and the compassion to serve them as You would have them served.

Help me Lord not to hold the evil they do against them. Lord help me not to just talk the talk, but to walk the talk also. May Jesus' character and work be seen in my life today. I ask in Jesus Mighty Name,

Who are you following?

 \mathcal{J}_{t} is the Lord your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him.

Deuteronomy 13:4 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Make sure that the voice you are following is God's. There are many other voices sounding off in our minds and all around us in the world today.

Many are people wanting us to follow their lead and obey their voice (doctrines of men). Most of the time it's the evil one himself trying to distract and deceive you from the 'Plan of God' for your life. But God has proved himself faithful and loving through the ages. Learn His voice and learn to follow it in all things [(John 10:27 KJV)

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.] We are to obey and keep his

commandments, and we are to serve him and depend upon him in our daily lives, not the things of the world. Follow His example and treat everyone with love! Let His light shine forth through you.

MY PRAYER...

Doly and Righteous Father, help me to learn Your voice and to know Your voice from ALL others. Help me Father to take my praise and worship for You outside the church building and into my day to day life. That I may display in my everyday life the feelings I have for you, that others may know from my actions and feelings that You are foremost in my life.

Help me Lord to let the love I have for You spill over on all who are around me, even those who try to be my enemies. Lord help me to love them also. In Jesus name I pray and ask this.

Can you live on bread alone?

 \mathcal{J} esus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."

--Matthew 4:4 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Sometimes we get so diverted by the mundane things of life, by the lust for the things of this world, by the natural hunger of our bellies, by the striving to earn more money that we forget the things of God.

God's Word, His written Word, the Bible, His demonstrated Word in and through Jesus, and His proclaimed Word in the Gospels, His Word confirmed in our spirit by the Holy Spirit, are what will sustain us for eternity.

They are the food that our spirit man craves. The natural things will one day all pass away, but the things of God that we have gained will last forever.

MY PRAYER...

True and Faithful Father, through Your Holy Spirit create in me a hunger for Your Word that is much more demanding of life than my hunger for natural food.

I confess that at times I have been distracted by the everyday things of life and have not sought Your Word and have not nourished my spirit man within like I should have.

Please forgive me as I pledge myself to be more attentive to Your leading and Your truth through Your Word. Create in me, Lord, an unquenchable desire for the things of You, for Your word, Your presence, Your plan for me, and for Your will to be done in my life. Through Jesus I pray.

What is the light that guides your life?

 \mathcal{P} our Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Psalm 119:105 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

In this age and time where TV and the Internet is laced with sex driven commercials, tell your doctor you need this or that drug, and the alcohol and tobacco push via commercials is tremendous. Where the news media is so one sided & spreads rumors of war and violence everywhere and only favors the Democrats and their socialist line of thinking, and the radio stations play "love 'em and leave 'em" songs.

When the internet offers all out porn, and witchcraft and Satanism run rampant in the public schools through the likes of the Harry Potter series books and PokeMon games aimed at our children sin is everywhere we turn, sin is in the world around us everywhere. They can teach "New Age", Wicca, and evolution in our schools, but we can't mention God, Jesus, pray Christian prayers, or teach Creationism.

What ever happened to our free speech amendment in our US Constitution? Isn't it wonderful to know that God's promises, God's Word, and His Holy Scriptures are there to help us find our way.

Our way if we have chosen His way that is. What great grace we have to know God's will for our lives in today's world if we will only allow His Word to be the light that lights the pathway on which we tread! If we will only listen as He speaks to us and obey Him.

If we will only remember that His Word and His Will must be first in our lives. His Word overrules anything man would dictate otherwise.

If not, we are following the wrong path because we haven't let His Word be the light for our path.

MY PRAYER...

Loving Father, thank You for giving me Your truth in Word through Your Holy Scriptures. To know that You love me enough to communicate in a language I can read is truly inspiring to me. To know that I can come to You in prayer and hear You speak to me. Father, put a hunger in my heart, my spirit, for Your truth revealed in Your Word. I want to grow and to be a righteous and gracious child in Your family.

I want to always walk in the Light of Your Word. With love for all, through my older brother, Jesus, I pray.

Do you seek first God and His Kingdom in all you do?

But I will sing of Your mighty strength and power; yes I will sing aloud of Your mercy and loving kindness in the morning; for You have been to me a defense (a fortress and a high tower) and a refuge in the day of my distress.

Psalm 59:16 Amplified Bible

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

So many things in our lives can be stolen away by natural disasters, aging, and the cares of everyday life, the lust for things of this world, sickness, disease and death. Satan will take whatever opportunity we give him and he will exploit it, remember he only comes but to steal, kill, and destroy. Be careful that you do not leave even a tooth pick in the door for Satan to come through, he will wedge it open if you do! But God is immovable, un-corruptible, and unchangeable!

When we invest ourselves in Him we can know our spirits are secure in His care, He is our fortress and a

refuge. He changes not, nor will He ever leave us or forsake us as long as we press in and draw near to Him. If we seek Him and draw near to Him in the 'Secret Place' He will hide & protect us under His wings (covering) from all that is going on around us.

We must seek Him first and foremost above all else, yes even over our natural family, He is our Family. If we do, He said He will give us all those other things that everyone else is seeking. And He will be our Fortress and our Refuge.

MY PRAYER...

Precious Father, Rock of my salvation, thank You for being unchangeable and faithful. Thank You for being the source of my security and my future in a day of chaos and change. Thank You for being God. My God. You are my God and in You I place my life, my hopes, and my future. May You be glorified in all I do and say. In Jesus name I pray.

Have you experienced the healing waters of the river of God?

And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river. Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other. Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed.

-Ezekiel 47:6-8 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Are you looking for healing? It's in God's River. The River that comes forth from the Throne of God and passes through the deserts and continues on to the sea and everywhere it passes it brings life and heals the land and the sea.

The River of God is here, don't dam its flow, don't stand and watch it flow by, just get in and get wet! In it you find all that you need in life. Let the waters of the River of God sweep over you and carry you where it flows. Don't struggle just flow.

MY PRAYER...

Precious Father, thank You for giving me Your River of healing. Thank You Lord, for Your River that cleanses me of all unrighteousness and heals me of all my afflictions. Help me Father, to understand that I must come to Your River and partake of its life giving substance. For that is where I will find life.

Help me Lord to accept Your ways and to flow with them. In Jesus' name I pray.

Are you in the River of God yet?

And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins. Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over.

-Ezekiel 47:3-5 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Are you in the river yet? Come on, step into The River of God. The waters are refreshing, they are never ending, and they bring forth life. Have you taken the step of Faith yet? He's calling you into the river, don't stand on the bank. Come on, jump in, the river is here. As you begin to wade into The River of God you will soon discover something. There is no limit to God's River! His River has a beginning, but no end. A river so vast that you cannot pass over to the other side.

You have to learn to swim and allow yourself to be carried away in the flow of His River. It has no limits, it has no end, and never finishes it just goes on forever. Come on in, God's waiting for You.

MY PRAYER...

Holy Father in heaven help me to appreciate Your River. Father, by Your grace, let me not be a dry bank setter, help me Lord to just get in and get wet. Lord I know Your river is here, and I know its for me, Lord help me to take that first step and get in. Lord I know, that once I'm in I'll not want to get out.

Father I thank You that You have not asked us to do something that You have not already equipped us to do. For You have given us Your grace and Your strength to cope with the things of this world. All You ask is that we trust in You. You have given us a river of life if only we will just step in. Help us to step in, In Jesus' name I pray.

Do you know the Friend of sinners?

 ${oldsymbol{\mathcal{T}}}$ he Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.

-Luke 19:10 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

"The Friend of Sinners." Of all the things Jesus was called, I believe that possibly this was His favorite. Jesus answered them and said, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick."

Now while Jesus said sick, He was actually referring to those who did not know Him and His redemptive power. How will the sinners hear about Jesus and His mighty work on the Cross unless we befriend them and tell them the Good News, that Jesus loves them!

We need to be known also as "the friend of sinners". This does not mean that we need to be like them, just that we show them the Love of Jesus and tell them the "Good News." That we introduce them to Jesus. That we make sure they know the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

MY PRAYER...

J ather, while I know You hate sin and the havoc it creates in our lives, I am so thankful that when You came to earth You were not our judge but You were our friend. You came to be our Savior, to buy back that which was lost.

I promise to live today more aware of Your love for the lost because I know what it means to be found, to be bought with a price.

Lord I pray that You would anoint me with the oil of Your Holy Spirit and with Your fire and the power that comes from the Holy Spirit, that I might be worthy to go forth into Your harvest and labor for You.

Lord increase my territory, make my path to cross with those who need to know about You and give me mighty boldness by Your Holy Spirit just like You did in the book of Acts.

Lord I know that Your Word says You are the same yesterday, today, and forever, therefore I know that this same Holy Ghost power is available to me also, just as it was to those in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. I thank You Father for giving me the power to change and to be a powerful witness for You. Through Jesus my Lord, I pray.

Do you know the Redeemer personally?

 ${old J}$ know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

-Job 19:25 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Whe, the Children of God, should know that our Redeemer will return in triumph and victory for His Bride, the Church. Hallelujah, what a day that will be! But only for those who have known and fellowshipped with Him regularly.

Those who have had a day to day personal relationship with Him. He's not coming back for someone who has just known of Him or about Him or even someone who has done much works in His name unless they have known Him personally day to day.

There are many church goers who fit this category that He is NOT coming back for. They go to a service now and then and they know about Him, but they don't know Him. There are even some ministers in the pulpit who only know about Him from seminary, you need to know Him.

Remember He said: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name, and in thy name have cast out devil, and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Mathew 7:21-23)

No, only those who have spent time in His Presence everyday will witness His Glory at His return. Only those who have a personal relationship with Him will be received into His Presence on that day and be taken up in the air to meet Him and to their new home in His Father's house.

You must know Him personally! Going to church does NOT make you a Christian, just like being in the garage does not make you an automobile! Being in the presence of and knowing Jesus as your Lord and then being like Him in all you do and say, makes you a Christian.

MY PRAYER...

Forious Father, I look forward to the day of Your victorious and triumphant return to this world. Until that day, I pray that Your Kingdom will be reflected in my church, my family and my life for Your glory.

Lord I ask that You help me to be all You have called me to be and that You will empower me to be able to walk worthy of Your calling. A vessel fit for the Master's use. In Jesus mighty name, I pray.

Do you have access to the Grace of God?

 \mathcal{T} hrough whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

-Romans 5:2 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Ur access to the grace of God is through our faith in Jesus. Nothing else we do can provide us with access to that grace. Not our works, not our church attendance, not our denominational beliefs, and definitely not how 'good' we are.

The only way we have access to the grace of God is through Jesus Christ and our faith in Him. In reality it is only Jesus Christ and Him crucified for you and your belief in that, that will give you entrance to God's Grace.

Do what you may, do what you will, but if you don't have faith in God through Jesus Christ. If you haven't made Jesus "The Lord" of your life, you'll not enter in to God's grace and His rest, nor shall you see or enter into the Kingdom of God and eternal life.

MY PRAYER...

You made it so clear in Your Word. Spoken by the very mouth of Your own Son Jesus, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6)

I thank You Father for giving me the way, the truth, and the Life through Jesus Christ. For I who was once dead in sin, have been made alive through Jesus, my Lord and my Savior. I give Him all the glory and honor, that in Him I may also glorify You. In Jesus' name, Father, I pray.

Have you received the Grace of God?

De, who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

-Romans 4:25 - Romans 5:2 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Jesus was delivered for our offences (He was an innocent man), He was raised for our justification (something we can't do for ourselves), and then He provided us access into the Grace of the Father!

Jesus stands before Father God and declares to the Father: "This one (Pastor Duane) is mine Father, He has believed in Me."

How much more could He love us than this? And this He did when we were yet sinners! Before we had made

Him our Lord and Savior. Jesus has actually saved every man women and child in the earth already by His death on the Cross.

They just haven't all received that salvation yet. We only need, by our faith to reach out and take that which He has already provided. Don't ask Him to do it again, He's already done it once and made it available to us. Just receive it!

MY PRAYER...

In the all-powerful name of Jesus I praise you and glorify you forever.

Are you represented by the Great Lawyer, Jesus at the Father's side?

Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

-Hebrews 1:3 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Jesus was God with us. No imitation, no look alike, no knock off, or clone. He was, "The Word made Flesh", God with us (Emmanuel). To this day, He sustains creation with His word — so much for "Mother Nature." But now "God with us" (Emmanuel) has paid for our sins and is not just God with us, but God for us at the Father's side.

He sits at the Father's side to ever make intercession for the saints (those who are the ones who believe in Him and have a day to day personal relationship with Him, not those who know about Him). We who believe in Jesus are all saints, not just those that certain religions have canonized and called saints. We (ALL Believers in Jesus) are saints to God. And Jesus (God), He turns to the Father and says: "Duane (insert your name here if Jesus is your Lord), He's one of mine Dad, I paid for him (her)! He's covered by My Blood."

He's innocent of every charge the Devil brings against him (her). The debt has been fulfilled his (her) sin has been removed, washed away by My Blood forever!

MY PRAYER...

Precious Lord, as You have so many times in the past, take my humble human words and bring them to the Father as my friend, my mediator, and my brother. Thank You for Your sacrifice, which gave me my total salvation (body mind and soul). Thank You for Your sustaining presence in our universe. Thank You for Your daily intercession on our behalf. Thank You for being God for me at the Father's side and God in me here on earth. To the glorious, majestic, and holy God, who sent Jesus as my Savior, be glory, honor, and adoration forever and ever, in Jesus' Name.

Do you truly understand forgiveness?

 \mathbb{T} ake heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.

-Luke 17:3-4 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

J orgiveness! God is very concerned about forgiveness. After all He forgave all of mankind! He is also concerned with un-forgiveness because if you hold un-forgiveness against someone, then He cannot forgive you. I didn't say that, His Word said that! If He can't forgive you then He can't hear you and answer your prayers to Him.

Jesus even told Peter that he should forgive not just seven times, but rather seventy times seven in a single day (490). Forgiveness is the key to walking in fellowship with the Lord and with your fellow brothers and sisters. Forgiveness opens the door to the blessings of God.

MY PRAYER...

Precious Father, thank You for giving me the power through Your Holy Spirit to forgive those who trespass against me. Thank You Lord, for forgiving me, for cleansing me of all unrighteousness through the precious blood of Jesus.

Help me Father, to understand that I must come to You with a pure heart, because only with a pure heart will You hear my prayers. Now I know if You hear my prayers that You will answer them, for Your Word tells me this.

Father, thank You for giving us the guidance and teaching through Your Holy Word to help us put away all un-forgiveness, strife, envy, and anything else that is not a part of Your Love. Lord by Your power that works within us, help us to walk in the same love for people that You have. In the Mighty Name of Jesus I pray.

Did you know we are not to be Judges?

 \mathcal{J} udge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:

-Luke 6:37 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

The Word of God instructs us not to be judgmental or condemning toward others lest we ourselves be judged. If we are so busy passing judgment and condemnation on others then we cannot see our own transgressions and therefore we will also be judged by men and God.

Yet God went even further than telling us not to judge or condemn. God would instead have us to forgive and to share love, His love with others. He would have us to forgive even our enemies through love, so that He can forgive us. (Mark 11:25)

Not just say we forgive them, and not let pass what we have against them, but to give it up and let it go, not

remembering what we had against our enemies. To actually pray for and bless them instead! Remember, God is Love!

MY PRAYER...

Boly Father in heaven help me to walk in Your love and forgiveness here and now on this earth. Father, by Your grace, let me not judge or condemn even an enemy of mine.

Instead Father, help me to show loving kindness and forgiveness even in the face of scorn and malice, that they may know Your love. Father help me to produce the fruit of righteousness that will uphold and build up the reputation of Christianity before the world. In Jesus' name I pray.

Jesus is the Great Reconciler!

Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, Leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

-Matthew 5:23-24 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Be reconciled to each other before you offer anything to God. What is Jesus saying here? He's telling us that the altar (our hearts, we are the temple of the living God under the New Covenant) is more important than the gift being offered.

God is more concerned about our heart condition toward each other than He is about a gift or offering or sacrifice to Him.

Make sure you have prepared your heart and that you come to Him having a pure heart, not holding any un-

forgiveness toward anyone.

MY PRAYER...

Precious Father, thank You for forgiving me, for cleansing me of all unrighteousness through the precious blood of Jesus. Father, let me see the revelation of the teaching offered in these verses.

Help me Father, to understand that we must come to You with only a pure heart. A heart that holds no malice or un-forgiveness, but only love. The Love of God that has been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

Father, take me and purge me with Your Refiner's Fire and remove all un-forgiveness, strife, envy, and anything else that is not a part of Your Love from me. Father, make me a vessel You can use for Your Glory. In Jesus' name I pray.

Did you know we are to love our enemies?

But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward shall be great, and you shall be the sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

-Luke 6:35 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

 \mathfrak{A} s Christians we are supposed to do and act like our Precious Lord did when He walked on this earth. He says we are to love our enemies and do good to and for them.

If we show forth His love to those who are in need and those who would despise and use us, to those where we know we will not get a return back from them, we will receive His reward. He will receive us as His children, children of the most High God. Heirs to the Kingdom of righteousness. And we show forth the true meaning of Christianity — being "Christ" like!

MY PRAYER...

J ather I thank You that You have not asked us to do something that You have not already done Yourself and that You have not already equipped us to do.

For You have given us Your grace, Your mercy, and Your strength to cope with the things of this world. You have given us a Name that is above all other names. That You sent forth Your Son Jesus, my Lord and Savior, because You so loved the world. The strength and grace You sent through Him more than equips me to carry out Your will.

Thank You Father, for the reward You have reserved in heaven for me and for the blessings bestowed upon me now and for the grace to continue to do Your will here on earth. Father I give You all praise and glory in Jesus' wonderful name.

Probably one of God's best promises.

Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. The beast of the field shall honor me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen. This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise.

-Isaiah 43:19-21 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

God is ready to do a new thing for His chosen people. We as Christians are His chosen people, a Holy Priesthood. Are we ready to receive His new thing?

He says He will make a way even in the deserts of our lives. That He will bring forth rivers where there are none so that we, His chosen people can come and drink. Then we are to show forth His praise. Have you came to the river lately? Are you drinking from His River regularly? Are you honoring Him with your praise daily regardless of your circumstances? You should be. Your praise to Him should not be dependent upon how you feel. It should just praise Him for what He is and what He has done for you – then the joy will come to you.

MY PRAYER...

Doly Father, I thank You that You make a way where there seems to be no way. That You provide for Your children's every need. Thank You Lord for Your River, where we may come forth and drink whenever we are thirsty.

Thank you Jesus, for You have provided us that river in Yourself. You said, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." Thank You Father for Your Rivers of provision. In Jesus name I pray.

Do you ever wonder what you need to wear to that special meeting?

 \mathcal{A}_{s} God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

-Colossians 3:12 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Do you ever wonder what you need to wear to that special meeting? Paul reminds us that we have a set of clothing that is always in style no matter what the meeting or with who.

We wear this clothing because we are God's special people, a chosen people. This clothing is from the "Ultimate Designer's" collection and is called 'God's Character' and is best worn when we are with and around other people.

These qualities are hard to wear, but always a blessing to those who meet us when we're decked out in His wardrobe. This is the Robes of Righteousness given us through the blood of Jesus. Wear them proudly, but with humility and meekness.

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, thank You for bringing me into Your family. May I never disappoint You in the way I treat others. May they see in me the qualities of character that can only be attributed to Your presence in my life.

Father thank You for giving me Your Robes of Righteousness, may I wear them in a manner worthy of You. To You be the glory and the honor, forever and ever, through Jesus my Lord.

Whose counsel do you call upon for guidance in your daily life?

Bessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.

-Psalm 1:1-3 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Isn't it awesome! God lets me choose which sources of information I feed my soul and my spirit man with. Even though He gives me the freedom to choose, He also gives guidance on what I should chose. But with this privilege and freedom also comes a responsibility. God longs to bless me, but that blessing remains dormant until my heart delights in knowing and doing His will. Until I seek the Holy Counselor and take Godly counsel. I find His will in His Word through study and meditation, through prayer and through pondering.

When I choose His will and walk in His ways then He will cause all that I put my hand to, to prosper. He will rebuke the devourer for my sake and He will cause my enemies to flee seven ways.

MY PRAYER...

Deavenly Father, Wondrous Creator, just as You fashioned such a beautiful world and put me together in my mother's womb, I also ask that You create in me a desire to know Your truth. I ask that as I study and meditate Your Word You give me the knowledge and insight into how to live that truth.

Father, I ask that the eyes of my understanding be enlightened unto the knowledge of You. I know Your Holy Spirit is in me to help me in this journey, but I want so much to please You and honor You because of all the ways You have blessed me. In Jesus name I pray.

Cleanse yourself with the Word of God!

Bash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes!

Cease to do evil, Learn to do right! Seek justice, relieve the oppressed, and correct the oppressor. Defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.

-Isaiah 1:16-17 Amplified Bible

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

God is telling us to wash ourselves and be clean. He is saying take My Word and cleanse the worldly unmoral things from yourself by the washing of water of the Word of God and by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost in our lives.

Learn to love the people (God is Love), but help them cease to do the evil things that they do. Do you find it easy just to tell those in need what God has done for them or do you help them with what you can?

Do you become God's hands and feet and help them?

God wants us not to get so caught up in talking about Him and celebrating His deeds that we forget we're supposed to care for others like He does.

Whether it is Jesus defining His ministry in Luke 4:18-19 or James talking about the kind of godliness that pleases God (James 1:26-27), we must realize true faith is treating others as God would. Being God's Ambassadors here on Earth.

MY PRAYER...

Almighty God of all comfort, open my eyes today that I might see those who need Your love and give me the attentiveness, the time, and the compassion to serve them as You would have them served. Help me Lord not to hold the evil they do against them. Lord help me not to just talk the talk, but to walk the talk also. May Jesus' character and work be seen in my life today I ask in Jesus Mighty Name.

Have you answered the call?

God has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

-2 Timothy 1:9 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Before the beginning of time! How do we understand when that was? God first thought of us at a time we cannot even begin to understand! Before we were formed in our mother's womb!

His reason for thinking of us was to demonstrate His grace and to call others to His side. Jesus has always been God's plan, and we have always been his goal.

Let's make sure we respond by receiving His son Jesus as our Lord and by living that holy life that He has called us to! It doesn't mean I'm better than you and it isn't something that is unattainable (except without Christ). To be holy means to be consecrated unto God AND set apart from the world and it's immoral, unethical ways. It is God's power working in your daily life. To give yourself totally unto God body, soul, and spirit; to give Him your heart! To let Him lead and direct your life day to day, minute by minute.

MY PRAYER...

Thank You so much, Father, for knowing me and thinking of my needs, even before there was a world. I dedicate this day to Your honor and pledge to live a life that reflects Your righteousness and grace.

Only through the grace You have given me and the power of Your Holy Spirit residing in me will this be possible. For I know that I can of my own self do nothing.

Yet Father, today, I once again consecrate myself to You, I separate myself from the things of this world and devote myself unto the things of You. Through Jesus, the one who had no sin, I pray.

Do you show the fruit of God's love in your life?

(\mathcal{J} esus said) "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love."

–John 15:10 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Love is more than an emotional feeling, it is action, and it is a way of living. As believers, the action, the way of living, that most shows our love for Jesus is our obedience to His Words and His example.

The Bible relates men as being like trees. A tree does NOT have to verbally tell you what kind of tree it is, its fruit lets you know what kind of tree it is.

We, as Christians, need to be like trees and let our fruit tell people who we are. His Word says to walk in love and His example to us was He walked in love. Do you live the example of Jesus? Do you bear the fruit of love? If we remain in His love, then we remain also in the Father's love. And if we remain in the Father's Love then we are His children and if children then heirs to the Kingdom of God and all that is therein!

MY PRAYER

J ather, thank You for showing your love in and through Jesus. Thank You, Jesus, for showing us how to love our Father by being obedient to His will and His Word. Today, Lord I pledge to consciously try to live in obedience to Your will.

Please receive my actions, my words, and my thoughts today as an offering of praise to You. Lord, by the power of Your Holy Spirit living within me provide me the power and grace necessary for me to fulfill Your will in my life. In Jesus name, I pray.

Giving thanks always, there is always a reason to give thanks!

 \mathcal{J} always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way – in all you're speaking and in all your knowledge.

-1 Corinthians 1:4-5 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Dou can always give thanks for someone because of the grace given to you by the Lord Jesus Christ. Here Paul was writing to one of the most fleshly, worldly churches of the day. They loved God, but they lived like the rest of the world around them day to day. It was difficult to distinguish between them and the heathens around them. But notice that he still finds reasons to give thanks for them. In Paul's letter to them, he is thankful for them because Jesus died for them. Later he recognizes the areas of their abuse are also a reason to give thanks – they may have distorted their gifts from the Lord, but when reined in to where they honor God, these gifts will bless their church. Even though Paul followed these thanks with some really tough words, Paul's example reminds us that a child of God is something to be cherished, even if they have problems.

We need to show them the love of God even when we are correcting them. "For whom He loves, He chastens." Remember, babes need to be taught how to act and behave, they don't automatically know just because they are born.

MY PRAYER...

Precious Father, increase within me the heart to see reasons to be thankful for all of Your children. I confess that it is often so easy for me to view others based on how they view me, or whether they share my opinions, or how much trouble they cause me.

Father forgive me for this, I know if You had done the same with me, I would have never been one of Your children. Please help me to change the way I view others. Help me to see them as You see them, through the Blood of Jesus. Please help me rejoice in Your children. Through Jesus I pray.

Believe it or not, one day you will bow your knee to God.

 \mathcal{J}_{t} is written, "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God."

-Romans 14:11 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Yes, every knee will bow, in heaven, on the earth, and under the earth. But ours, as believers, already bow before Him.

I do not wish to be crushed by the rock and made to submit. I would rather willingly submit to Him now than be made to submit in the judgment that is to come to those who will not willingly submit now.

As believers we have already submitted to His Lordship over our lives. We live in anticipation of the day when all peoples will bow before our Lord and King. Until that day, let's do all we can to make sure that we keep Him as our Lord and King!

Let us consecrate ourselves anew each day unto the Lord, separate ourselves from the world unto Jesus and let Him prepare us for that Great Day!

MY PRAYER...

Jf ather, I thank You for saving me. May my anticipation of the day of Jesus' victorious return for His church move me to be Your agent of reconciliation so others may be made ready for that day and welcome it with joy. Give me eyes to see those who need to come to know Jesus today.

Give me ears to hear their cries, Lord give me Your heart of compassion for them, that I may minister to them as if I were You for You are in me as I am in You.

In Jesus' name I pray.

Are you eating the right kind of spiritual food?

 \mathcal{A}_{nd} Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:35 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Our physical bodies crave and need food at regular intervals throughout the day in order to maintain our physical health and well being. But sometimes we allow food to totally occupy our thoughts and fill up our activities during those times and sometimes we let food occupy our thoughts when we shouldn't. Because deep in our soul, in our spirit-man there is a hunger also, a spiritual hunger that cannot be filled or satisfied by food, drink, or other chemical substances (drugs and alcohol). This hunger is the desire pre-programmed into us by our Creator, placed there when He knit us together in our mother's womb. Many will try and satisfy this spiritual hunger with the wrong kind of spirit(s). They will seek after the occult and the things of the evil (that which is of the devil). It will seem that this satisfies that spiritual hunger at first. This is because the devil is a liar, but eventually you will find that the spiritual hunger is still there. This hunger of our spirit can only be satisfied by fellowship with Jesus, with God, and with the Holy Spirit. We need to satisfy this hunger for Jesus by feeding on Him and His Word, by having a personal relationship with Him on a daily basis. By spending time with Him in prayer and meditating His Word daily. The physical body feeds almost constantly shouldn't your spirit also, after all we ARE a spirit that only lives temporarily in this fleshly body. Remember our spirit lives forever.

MY PRAYER...

J ather, thank You for Your Son Jesus. Give me today, my Daily Bread, that I may find life in all His fullness. Help me Lord to spend time with You and Your Word and help me Lord to have revelation knowledge of what I meditate and read in Your Word so that I may become more intimate with You. Precious Lord, Jesus my Savior and brother, fill me and touch me with Your presence so that I can serve You by blessing those around me with Your grace.

Amen

Are you Holy before God?

 \mathcal{J} ust as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

-1 Peter 1:15-16 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

"Doly" is one of those words we generally associate with the religious people (Pharisees & Sadducees) — a word only "religious church folks" (those who live under the Law –the Ten Commandments) use. That may be true, but it's still a great concept.

Every kid knows that you don't eat hot dogs and potato chips on Mom's best china. Mom's china is reserved for "special company" or "special occasions." Or is it? Should it be? When God is calling us to be holy, He's calling us to be like fine china — something special just for Him, and as Peter emphasizes, just like Him (JESUS). The Greek word translated here as holy could also have been translated: sacred, pure, blameless or consecrated unto God. God wants us to be set apart from the world - but also consecrated unto Him.

God wants us to stand out as not being like the world around us, but different. Different in that we are like Him Holy and Righteous in the eyes of God regardless of what is going on around us. Different in that the light and love of God shines forth from us to those around us that we meet. That is what being Holy is about.

MY PRAYER...

Doly Lord, Almighty God, I come before You knowing how great the distance is between Your holiness and my commonness. But, I thank You for making me holy and righteous through the sacrifice of Jesus and by sending Your Holy Spirit to live inside of me.

Please receive my life today as a holy offering to You. Empower me to become and live the righteousness of You. Through Jesus, the pioneer and perfector, the author and the finisher of my faith I pray.

Can you worship God in and from the spirit?

Bod is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

-John 4:24 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Denuine worship is a gift, it is something we are given by the spirit when we are born again unto God. Since God is spirit (a spiritual being), since He is holy, we cannot fully approach Him without the free gift of His grace, the cleansing of His Son's Blood, and the blessing of His Holy Spirit.

As Christians who received His Spirit when we were baptized into Christ and born again of God's Spirit, we can now speak to Him and worship Him spirit to Spirit. In fact, we can ONLY worship Him in spirit, our natural man cannot communicate with His Spirit.

Yet we must also worship him in truth, the true knowledge of who He is and what He has done for us

will cause you to worship Him from your heart (your spirit man).

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, by the gift of Your Spirit I come to You as Your child. Thank You so much for giving, Your Son to redeem me, Your Holy Spirit to make me a new creation, and filling me anew each and every day with Your Holy Spirit so that I can approach You with confidence and know You hear the concerns of my heart.

Please accept the worship of my heart, of my words, and of my actions. May the things I do today be done in spirit and in true knowledge of who and what You are in my life. May I bring You glory and Honor forever.

In Jesus' name I pray.

About The Author

Pastor Duane was born in Adrian, Michigan in 1950. He was raised in an essentially non-Christian home. But at the age of 7 he was taken to a vacation Salvation Army Bible School by an older cousin. Duane went on to reject the Gospel of Jesus and to live his life apart from God and the Bible until the age of 47 when he gave his life to Jesus.

While at work one day he cried out to God and as he did he was genuinely Born Again and filled with the Holy Spirit. Since then he has prayed for many to be saved, baptized with the Holy Spirit, and healed in their bodies.

Duane studied the Bible for four years in his senior pastor's Bible school, Liberty Bible Institute of Word & Spirit Church in Bremerton, WA. He completed his Bachelors in Church Ministry and his Masters in Biblical Studies from The Sure Foundation Theological Institute and recently completed his PHD in Theology from the Institute.

He is currently the Associate Pastor of Word & Spirit Church in Bremerton, Washington where he assists his senior pastor with the pastoral duties. Duane is gifted to teach a simple, balanced, uncompromised, Word of God in a manner that all can grasp easily. He is the author of "Unveiling the Mysteries, Christian Truths Concerning the Laws Found in Romans".

He has been on 2 mission trips to Africa with his senior pastor and one mission trip to the Philippines accompanied by his wife Laura of 43 years.