Daily Manna For Your Spirit

Volume 3

A Collection of "Today's Manna"

By
Pastor Duane A. Barrett Sr.

Compiled & Edited by Robert Farmer

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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

TODAY'S MANNA

Chapter 1: Do you want God's divine healing in your life?

And said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you."

Exodus 15:26 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

want God's divine healing in your life? Do you want God's very best for you and your family? You need the 'Wisdom' of God to understand how His system works. He tells us in His Word how to get it.

Trouble is most of us are too busy listening to the things of this earthly world (desires, lusts and earthly greed) to give heed to His voice and His will for us so that we can even know what He wants us to do.

We don't realize that He speaks to us in many different ways.

Sometimes through a friend or co-worker, sometimes through His ministers (your pastor – you do have one right?), sometimes through an e-mail, or a phone call, sometimes just by that still small voice in our spirit.

Most of you think that still small voice is just our own conscience, WRONG, that is God's Spirit, His still small voice trying to guide us by speaking to our spirit.

Trouble is we very seldom listen, especially when we are so caught up in things that will one day (and very soon) perish instead of laying up treasures and spiritual things in heaven.

As for me and my house, we shall serve the Lord!

MY PRAYER...

If ather God, I thank You for giving us a choice in this life. We can choose Your way or we can choose the World's way.

You allow us to choose life or to choose death. But You tell us which we should choose. Your way leads to health and all things that pertain to life and Godliness. The World's way leads to sickness, disease, poverty, lack, death and eternal destruction.

I choose life, Lord. I purpose from this day forward Lord to diligently pursue life and Godliness through You and Your Word.

Lord increase my strength in these areas through the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may have the power to overcome.

Lord I realize that I can of myself do nothing, but that all things are possible through Jesus Christ who strengthens me. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 2: Did you know, The Lord our God loads His children daily with benefits?

Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, The God of our salvation! Selah

Psalms 68:19 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

id you comprehend what He (God) just said in His scriptures to us? That the Lord our God will load us daily with His benefits, He didn't say sickness, disease, depression, and poverty. He has even provided us with salvation.

The Hebrew word translated as salvation here is; H3444. yeshuw'ah, yesh-oo'-aw; fem. pass. part. of H3467; something saved, i.e. (abstr.) deliverance; hence aid, victory, prosperity:--deliverance, health, help (-ing), salvation, save, saving (health), welfare.

Notice that among the many things that the translator could have used and should have used are victory, prosperity, deliverance, health, and welfare or well-being. All of these are part of our salvation. Don't just reach into the gift box and take out one thing, take

it ALL! I feel sorry for those whose church does NOT teach the 'full meal deal' concerning salvation!

Being saved and having eternal life means nothing here and now unless you also have victory, prosperity, deliverance, health, and well-being. You do NOT have to wait until you are in Heaven for these things. What good are they to you then?

The Bible says: "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)

All of these are part of our salvation. There is NO sickness and disease in Heaven. There is NO lack in Heaven. There is NO defeat in Heaven. That means we shouldn't have any here and now either if Matthew 6:10 is true, and God's Word is always true! He did this for me before I ever loved Him! He loads us daily with His benefits. "Blessed be the Lord, my God!"

MY PRAYER...

Poly Father God, thank You for the air I breathe, the blood that pumps through my veins, and the Spirit of life that You have breathed into me. Thank You Father for loving me before I ever loved You. For loving me so much that You sent Jesus, Your only begotten Son, to take my place on the cross.

To bear that which I was due, that I might have life and life more abundantly. Thank You for loading me daily with benefits and good things.

Thank You Lord, that You are the God of more than enough! Thank You Father, for Your saving grace and Your mercy unto me. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 3: Is your salvation growing?

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

1 Peter 2:2-3 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Salvation is a most precious thing! But like a newborn baby needs it's mother's milk, we need pure and wholesome Spiritual teaching (food for our spirit man) from our Father through the Word of God, so that we can grow and mature in the spirit.

Yet if we stay in the same place spiritually and do the same things we did when we were newly saved we are not growing and maturing. We have to grow spiritually! Read and meditate Hebrews chapters 5 & 6 and see what God has to say about remaining immature!

We must really want to grow. We must crave what is good and what builds us up from God's Word. Now go and read and meditate Galatians chapters 3 & 4 also.

We must get a hold of all that is included in the

salvation package. Salvation is not just going to heaven when you die. Salvation is a total package deal! Get out your concordance and look up salvation in both the Hebrew and the Greek.

It includes health, prosperity, well-being, peace of mind, deliverance, as well as eternal life and it's for now, not for when we get to heaven.

"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." We are to have Heaven on earth. What are you going to do about it today to satisfy your spiritual appetite? The choice is yours!

MY PRAYER...

Highty God, thank You for loving me, saving me, and making me a son and an heir. I really want to mature in Your Love and Grace. Bless me today as I seek to pattern myself after Your Holy example, Jesus. Father, increase my territory and my influence, that I may share Your Gospel with all I come to know.

Help me Father to fill myself spiritually with the things that will help me grow. But Holy God, I know that true growth comes only from and through You, for You give the increase.

So I ask You to strengthen me by Your Holy Spirit as I

pursue Your character. Through Jesus' mighty name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 4: Are you a conqueror?

Tho shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Romans 8:35-37 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Conquerors! We win! But, not just conquerors, we are more than conquerors! When you open up the final book of the Bible, Revelation, and read and study it, that is the message put forth. Christians win because Jesus is The One true Conqueror, and HE has already won for us.

No matter how the battle is going for you right now, remember that in the end, we win! If you will not give up, you cannot lose, Jesus already won for you!

Nothing, let me repeat that 'NOTHING' can separate us from the Love of God – you can only refuse to accept it!

MY PRAYER...

El Shaddai, God Almighty, Father of more than enough, thank You for securing the ultimate victory for me by raising Jesus from the dead. I know He is coming with victory on the day You have appointed, but I pray that I may live victoriously for You until that day.

Jesus told us when we pray: "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." I know that there is victory in heaven, so Father I thank You that Your will be done now, here on earth, in my life.

That I AM victorious now through the Blood of Christ. As Jesus told us to pray, I pray now through Jesus my conquering King, in His Name, the name of Jesus. Amen.

Chapter 5: Do you lay down your life for Jesus?

Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

John 10:17-18 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

ear the Words Jesus spoke, "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself" they were spoken for us. He made the choice to lay down His life for us. That choice was made for you and me. No man could have taken it from Him if He had not chosen to lay it down.

He said Himself, "Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and He shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?" But if He had done that, where would we be today? Who would have paid the price for our redemption? He loved us that much, that He laid down His life for us before we ever loved Him.

Should we not do the same for Him and for our brothers? Have you laid your life before Him yet, or are you still trying to do it your way? He who loves his own life shall lose it!

MY PRAYER...

Almighty God, I give you all praise and glory forever. Father thank You for sending Your Son to take my place and receive the punishment I was due. Thank You Jesus for loving me so much that You would lay down Your own life that I might live and have eternal life.

Lord I thank You that You made a way through Your Son that I could come boldly before Your throne of grace knowing that You have forgiven me through the cleansing of His blood.

Lord help me to live the way Jesus did and to show the same love toward Your people as He did when He walked the earth.

In His precious name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 6: Cast your cares upon Jesus for He cares for you!

Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.

1 Peter 5:7 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Cast your cares upon Jesus for He cares for you.

Another word for cares used here from the Greek would be distractions or worldly things. Jesus said if you would cast your cares on Him, He would care for you.

When you take care of someone do you not do things for them? Do you not do the things that they would have done if you were not taking care of them?

This is what Jesus said in His Word, give them to me, I'll do them for you! Now if He's doing them for you, what have you got left to do?

What business do you have trying to do them if you have given them to Him to do for you?

Enter into His rest, and allow Him to take care of you,

for His yoke is easy and His burden is light. (See Matthew 6:33)

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, thank You for giving us such a caring Savior. For letting me give You all my burdens, distractions and cares of this world, that You would take them for me. That I might enter into Your rest and find the peace that passes all understanding.

That I might dwell in the secret place of the most High and under the shadow of the Almighty.

That I might reside under Your wings and trust in Your truth. That truth being my shield and my buckler for ever. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 7: God so Loved the "World", that's everybody!

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:9-10 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Love is a verb, an action, something happening. We can't say it enough, it must come from the heart (the spirit) of man. Love in the sense being spoken of by in these verses is not the physical love that most of us think of when we hear the word "love".

Love must not only be spoken, but must also be shown. The beginning of love is God.

God is love. He showed His love in the most sacrificial of ways so we could know how much He loved us, to know our incredible value to Him.

The price of our adoption as sons/daughters was the emptying of heaven of its greatest treasure, God the

Son, who is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He was sent to pay the price for us, because God so loved the world!

Jesus was the propitiation (Theol.) That which propitiates; atonement or atoning sacrifice; specifically, the influence or effects of the death of Christ in appearing the divine justice, and conciliating the divine favor.) for our sins.

MY PRAYER...

Loving Father, thank You for adopting me into Your family. I can never thank You enough or ever repay You for Your kindness and Your mercy, but I can offer my self a living sacrifice unto You.

Please receive the service of my life today as thanksgiving for Your grace (Your unmerited favor) and my small way of trying to share the love You have given me.

Through my Brother, my Ransom, my Lord, and my Savior, Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 8: Does your Love endure forever?

Dive thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.

Psalm 136:1 and 26 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

ur thanks arise from the nature of God and His glory, His goodness, His mercy, and His love that He has bestowed upon us and through our faith in Jesus placed within us. The very reason we give thanks is because God is good and His love endures forever, it is beyond decay, and it never fails.

If we have given ourselves to Him and have become children of God, He has placed His love (AGAPE love) within us and it should endure forever.

We should therefore exhibit His Love in everything we do or say. For His Love we are eternally thankful!

MY PRAYER...

The Lover of my soul, thank You for sending Jesus as the demonstration of Your love. I love You Father. I love You for who You are and what You have done. I love You for what You have promised.

I love You for the blessings You shower upon me. I love You for giving me hope. I love You because You first loved me. I love You because You are worthy of all my love. But I confess that my love is not as strong as Yours, so please, fill me with Your love by the power of the Holy Spirit. Cause my love to be as Your Love is. In Jesus' name I lift my heart to You. Amen.

Chapter 9: Jesus says: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you!

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:43-45 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

e often talk about the privileges of being a child of God; forgiveness, salvation, a future in heaven with Him, healing for our bodies, prosperity, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and ultimate victory when Christ comes. One of the greatest privileges we get, however, is the opportunity to act toward those who dislike and hate us in a way that reflects the character and nature of God Himself.

God is Love! Anyone can return hate for hate, but it takes a true child of God to return a blessing and a prayer for their enemies who hate and abuse them. The last bit of the above verse (since it is a part of the entire verse) also indicates, according to the Bible, that

this action of loving, blessing, and praying for those

who hate and despitefully use us is a necessary action needed to become a son (daughter) of God.

"Faith without works is dead!" Works = corresponding actions, actions involved in doing the Word of God.

Because in doing the Word of God do you work out your salvation through His grace, You become as He is.

MY PRAYER...

If ather, thank You for loving me when I was still an enemy to You. Thank You for risking the death of Your Son to offer me the chance to accept or reject Your love.

As You have promised, You are pouring Your love into my heart so I may love even my enemies as You have loved me.

Father, by the power of Your Holy Spirit, help me to love everyone just as Jesus did and even now still does.

Help me Lord to show that true AGAPE love to all I meet. Through Jesus, the gift of Your love, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 10: How do you recognize the followers of Jesus, the true (Authentic) Christians?

 \mathcal{A} new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

John 13:34-35 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Dow do you recognize the followers of Jesus? How do you know who the true (Authentic) Christians are? How do you separate the true Christians from the one's claiming to be Christian, but are really just religious people punching a time clock?

Jesus said they (the Authentic Christians, the ones who are Christ-like) love each other just as He loved the disciples.

In the immediate context, this means He was willing to give sacrificially and selflessly by dying for them on the cross, and He was also willing to love selflessly and practically by becoming their servant and even washing their feet to show them how they must be. His

ministry reveals what a Christian is to be like, ALL the time, not just on Sunday mornings in church.

In the book of Acts they met daily from house to house. Imagine if we all read, understood, and did the Gospels, and committed to love each other in the same way Jesus showed His love to His disciples!

Are you a disciple of Jesus, a true (Authentic) Christian, or are you just a religious social (Counterfeit) Christian?

You are a true (Authentic) Christian if you love the Brethren all the time and bear the fruit of a Christ-like life. Otherwise you're only a social Christian, a religious counterfeit. Going to church doesn't make a Christian just like going to McDonalds doesn't make you a hamburger!

MY PRAYER...

If ather of Compassion, Mercy, and God of all grace, I thank You for teaching me to love through the example of Your Son Jesus.

May my words and actions reflect some resemblance of His love toward Your people today. May I learn to walk, talk and live the life that He lived every day of my life. Father, help me to not be a religious counterfeit like the Pharisees and Sadducees. Through Christ, my Great and Glorious example, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 11: Everybody say: "But GOD did!"

But God so rich is He in His mercy! Because of and in order to satisfy the great and wonderful and intense love with which He loved us, Even when we were dead (slain) by [our own] shortcomings and trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ;

[He gave us the very life of Christ Himself, the same new life with which He quickened Him, for] it is by grace (His favor and mercy which you did not deserve) that you are saved (delivered from judgment and made partakers of Christ's salvation).

Ephesians 2:4-5 Amplified Translation

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE

Verybody say: "But GOD!" God did what you could NOT do yourself! You could not do anything to save yourself except receive what God has given you, His Son. I cannot think of anything else I'd prefer God to be rich in besides His Mercy & His Grace.

I know many of my failures, my shortcomings, sins, and transgressions. I know how I was before I received His

mercy and grace.

Without His mercy to pardon, and without His grace to send Jesus to redeem us back from our sin, I would be lost and without God, on my way to a fiery eternity.

Now, because of His rich mercy, my life is tied to Jesus' future and not the one I earned for myself. I am, because He did. I live because He died (for me).

MY PRAYER

I thank You for being such a loving Father and Lord.
Thank You for extending Your grace when I have not deserved it.

Thank You for giving Your mercy when I most needed it. Thank You for giving life when I thought my life was doomed and hopeless. May my health and wealth be found in Your mercy and grace much more than in money and gold.

Help me, Father to be more like Jesus each and every day. Through my Lord, and my Savior, Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 12: "Holy" is one of those words we generally associate with the religious people, are you Holy?

 \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...

"Loly" is one of those words we generally associate with the religious people, Like the Pharisees & Sadducees of Jesus time, a word only "religious church folks" 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 plates.

Mom's china is reserved for "special company" or "special occasions." Hot dogs are for paper plates and every day tableware, china is for special events or special guests.

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."

The Greek word translated here as holy could also have been translated: sacred, pure, blameless or consecrated.

God wants us to be set apart from the world, but also set unto Him. Remember, we are in the world, but we are not to be of the world.

MY PRAYER...

Doly Lord, God Almighty, I come before You knowing how great the distance is between Your holiness and my commonness.

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. Help me Lord to make it holy and acceptable unto You.

Through Jesus, the pioneer and perfector the author and the finisher of my faith I pray. Amen.

Chapter 13: Do you have Heaven on earth right now in your lives?

Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."

John 14:23 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

The Son Jesus, and The Holy Spirit) will come to you and make our home with you. That's here and now on earth, not when we get to heaven!

At many Christian funerals, the preacher or speaker emphasizes how Jesus has left to make ready a house in His Father's mansion for us to join Him in heaven. Then He is going to come back for us. But in these verses here, Jesus makes what I believe to be an even more important promise.

He's telling us that until it is time for us to come be with Him at His place, He will come live with us here and now on earth. It all hinges on one thing, our willingness to obey Him. Do you want Him to live with you here and now? It's not a bad deal, is it?

We do not have to wait until we get to heaven to experience the God kind of life, we are supposed to have heaven here on Earth! So let's not allow obedience to be a forgotten word in our lifestyle. Let's not fall prey to the sin that caused Lucifer to fall from heaven and become Satan. Let's do the will of God. His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

Then Jesus and the Father will come to us, here on earth, and make their home with us.

MY PRAYER...

If ather, thank You for providing us with Your Word as our Guide in life. Thank You for creating an operating manual for my life here on earth, Your Holy Word.

My request, Father, I need Your abiding presence to face the challenges of life.

As You have upheld Your children through the ages, I am thankful to greet each day knowing that I will not face it alone. But I know that You are here with me each and every day, living in my heart. Father, let me be an instrument of Your peace, harmony, and unity here on earth. Amen.

Chapter 14: God Himself declares, there is no savior except Himself (Jesus)

" \mathcal{J} , even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no savior. I have revealed and saved and proclaimed ... I, and not some foreign God among you. You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "that I am God."

Isaiah 43:11-12 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

There is only one true and living God. All others are foreign and are but idols dreamed up in the minds of men. Men living a life of deception in a world of perversion, greed, and lusts of the flesh. And there is but one way to come unto the Father which is in heaven and that is through His Son Jesus.

There is NO other way! All other ways are roads of deception unto a bitter end.

Choose wisely for He has set before us life and death. The choice is yours. Choose life through Jesus Christ, He is the Way, the Truth and the Life, no man comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6).

All other so-called ways are but lies from the Devil and deception of men to make you think there are other ways.

No Man comes to God any other way except through Jesus! I didn't say that, God's Word said that very clearly. God has set before us life and death and He told us to choose. He gave us the choice in the matter, but He told us also to choose life!

MY PRAYER...

h Most High God, You have revealed Yourself unto me. Lord speaking by Your Spirit unto my spirit and confirming Yourself to me.

Thank You Lord for showing me that there is no other God but You and that You and You alone are the way unto salvation. All other roads lead to destruction in the end. Thank You Lord for quickening my spirit and helping me to believe in You. Thank You for Your grace, Your mercy, and Your most Holy Son Jesus. Thank You in Jesus I thank You for ever more! Amen.

Chapter 15: Do you know God's plans for you – Are you walking in them?

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give
you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

efore you were formed in your mother's womb, God had already planned your life with Him.

He had already ordained that you would be priests and kings in His Kingdom. But because He is a just and a loving God He has allowed us to have our own way & will. We can choose to follow His Word, which is His will for us or we can choose to do our own thing and be like the rest of the heathen unsaved world.

If we choose His way and His will He will prosper us and give us a future with Him, but if we choose our own thing then His hand is not in it and we will not (CAN NOT) receive what He has for us, we are on our own.

Instead we leave ourselves open for what is referred to

in Deuteronomy 28:15-68, as the CURSE.

But God even tells us which to choose between life or death...His choice - choose life!

MY PRAYER...

In my struggles, O Lord, help me find the grace You have already given me. Lord help me to fulfill the plan and purpose that You wrote in the book of my life before I was born.

Lord help me to see, through Your Holy Spirit and Your Word what You have planned for me.

By Your grace and through Your mercy when You sent my Lord and Savior, Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 16: Nothing in the Law (10 commandments) can justify you before God

Is nowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Galatians 2:16 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Are you justified? Justified: To be in right standing before God. Can you stand before the Creator of the Universe and be acquitted? There is only one thing you can do that will justify you before the Lord God Almighty. That one thing is to believe by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and what happened to Him for you on the Cross, and accept Him as your Lord and

Savior! All the works of the law (Religion and religious works, keeping the Ten Commandments, being good, doing good, even going to church regularly, etc.) that you do will not justify you before the Lord God Almighty nor will it stand the test of fire on the day of judgment.

Only what you have done by faith in Jesus will remain. Knowing about Him is NOT enough. You must have had a personal day to day relationship with Jesus.

If you have, He will stand before the Father and say "Father, this is Pastor Duane (insert your name here if this true for you), he is one of mine. I have justified him before You!"

MY PRAYER...

Cverlasting Father, may Your love for Your people continue to be burned into my spirit. May what You had Jesus do for "ME" that day on the Cross be forever engrained in my heart, may I never cease to remember and to give You thanks and praise for loving me so much before I ever loved You. Father, I thank You that I have been justified (2000 plus years ago) by the Blood of Your Only begotten Son and that by my faith in Him I can come boldly before Your Throne of grace and mercy and that I may partake of all the blessings of heaven here on earth.

Through the name of Jesus, who loves me, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 17: Who do you trust in for your strength?

So trust in the Lord (commit yourself to Him, lean on Him, hope confidently in Him) forever; for the Lord God is an everlasting Rock [the Rock of Ages].

Isaiah 26:4 Amplified Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

hen we see mountains we feel small, knowing not only how much larger they are than we, but also how much longer they have been in existence than we have.

But the Lord existed long before any mountain and He will exist long after the mountains have melted into nothing.

For the hills melt like wax at the presence of the Lord. The only rock of security, and all the forever's we have, are found in Him.

Only through the strength and power we have in and through Him can we move those mountains and cause them to melt like wax.

But, He says: "With God, ALL things are possible."

There is NO other God like Him.

MY PRAYER...

Freat and Eternal I Am, who was and is and will be forever, I trust that You are and will always be my God, my Redeemer, my Savior, my Shepherd, my Provider, my Healer, my Banner, my Strength, and my Father.

I commit all of my tomorrows to You.

Here I am Lord, take me and do with me what You will Lord, for I am Yours. Through Jesus my Lord. Amen.

Chapter 18: How often do you let God do major surgery on your heart (your spirit-man)?

The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Yow often do you let God do major surgery on your heart (spirit man) as His Spirit uses the Word to encourage, judge, motivate, convict, correct, instruct, and inspire?

So many people think their conscience is what they are hearing when they do something they shouldn't or are about to. That's not your conscience you are hearing, it's the still small voice of God through your spirit man trying to get through to you. With such a great tool so readily at hand for most of us, let's not let a day go by that we don't let God use His Word on hearts.

We may not always like what He has to say through His Word, but did you always like what your natural father

had to say?

What He does, He does because He loves us. No one, not even the Word, said being a Christian would be easy. It is a walk and a work that we must decide we are going to do, otherwise it won't work for us.

MY PRAYER...

Almighty God, Heavenly Father, Your will is my heart's desire. But I realize that I need to be fed more consistently by Your Word revealed in Scripture.

I realize that I need to read, to meditate, to speak, and to do Your Word more and more every day.

Lord, Give me strength and consistency in my walk with You through Your Word. Through Your Holy Spirit, inspire me to change what needs to be changed and to be blessed and encouraged in the areas that I need it most.

I turn to You and rely on and trust in Your Word to point me in the way of life that You would have for me. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Chapter 19: Who do you acknowledge for what you are and have in life, yourself or God?

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

hen things are tough and it seems like everything is going wrong, like everyone is against you, can you find it easy to turn and call on God and to lean on His mercy and grace?

I must confess, when I'm reveling in His blessings and things are going super, I am so much like the Israelites and tend to forget to acknowledge that all the blessings I have and all the opportunities I have received are mine ONLY because of His grace and His mercy toward me. In our joy and success, we need to remember to acknowledge Him and thank Him for all He has done for us and for all we are enjoying.

He has redeemed us and made our path straight. He has given us every good and perfect gift.

And it is He who has come and saved us every time we have been down and out. That's why only one set of footprints in the sand - He was carrying you! Then, we also need to remember to thank Him even when things are going bad around us, for in thanking Him we acknowledge Him and then He will help us!

MY PRAYER...

Fracious Father, every good thing I have in my life has come because of and from You. The family I have been blessed with, the protection I have received, the values that I now hold, the successes I have enjoyed, the hope I now have, the salvation I have received, and the future I anticipate are all mine because of Your grace and mercy, not because of my goodness or my works of the flesh.

They are all mine because of what You did through Your Son and not the result of anything I have ever done. Thank You Father! Through Jesus I thank You for ever more! Amen.

Chapter 20: Who or what are you filled with every day, the world or God and His blessings?

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.

Psalms 68:19 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

The Lord our God will load (fill to overflowing) us daily with benefits. Trust in the Lord, rely on Him.

"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." (2 Corinthians 1:20 NKJV)

Do you hear that? ALL His promises are Yes and Amen.

As we look back today on the events that took place on Sept. 11, 2001 know that our God was watching over us as a country. Had our God not been there many more would have perished that day. If others would have heeded His still small voice that morning, even less would have perished. He kept many from going to work in the towers that morning or at least delayed them so they missed the disaster. He has even provided us with

salvation.

Salvation is more than just going to heaven when you die.

The Hebrew word translated as salvation here is; H3444. yeshuw'ah, yesh-oo'-aw; fem. pass. part. of H3467; something saved, i.e. (abstr.) deliverance; hence aid, victory, prosperity:--deliverance, health, help (-ing), salvation, save, saving (health), welfare.

Notice that among the many things that the translator could have used are victory, prosperity, deliverance, health, and welfare or well-being.

All of these are part of the total package of our salvation. Don't just reach into the gift box and take out one thing, take it ALL! There are many churches out there that only teach salvation as eternal life, going to Heaven. How sad! Being saved and having eternal life is nothing here and now unless you also have victory, prosperity, deliverance, health, and well-being.

"Your will be done on earth just as it is in heaven!" All of these are part of our salvation. He did this for me before I ever loved Him! He loads us daily with His benefits. But as with any gift, if it is not received it is of No benefit to us. You must receive His benefits.

"Blessed be the Lord, my God!"

MY PRAYER...

Doly Father God, thank You for the air I breathe the blood that pumps through my veins, and the Spirit of life that You have placed within me.

Thank You Father for loving me before I ever loved You. For loving me so much that You sent Jesus, Your only begotten Son, to take my place on the cross. To bear that which I was due that I might have life and life more abundantly.

Thank You for loading me daily with benefits and good things. Thank you Father for your protection over our country even when we don't think about you being there.

Thank You Lord, that You are the God of more than enough! Thank You Father, for Your saving grace and Your mercy unto me. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 21: What if we didn't have to have laws?

The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule:

"Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Romans 13:9-10 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

ouldn't it be great if we didn't have to have laws to keep people in line! That's the point behind Paul's message here from God. Treat our neighbors as we would like to be treated ourselves.

Love them as we like to be loved. If we do that, then we're not going to do anything that would hurt them, much less violate a commandment of the law, God's or man's.

Therefore there would be no need for any other laws. But man has a sin nature and cannot do this without God (Jesus) in his life.

MY PRAYER...

If ather God, He who gave Moses the Law on tablets of stone, please write Your character and will on my heart so I might be a living stone, testifying to Your righteousness and grace.

Help me to think more carefully about how my neighbors feel before I act or react to them from this day forward.

Help me Lord to exhibit Your love in all I do and say, to walk so that the love light of Jesus shines forth from within me.

Help me Lord to have integrity before both You and my neighbors.

Through your Holy Son, Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 22: Did you know that Jesus has given us only two commandments to follow?

'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. "And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:30-31 New King Kames Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

hile most people think about only the Ten Commandments, there were actually 613 laws or commandments in the Old Testament.

Now that we are living in the New Covenant Jesus has given us only two commandments to follow. He makes it very easy for us, we do not have to remember a bunch of old laws.

Get over it we don't live by the 10 Commandments in the New Testament. Jesus did not do away with the old commandments, He simply stated if you will do these two new ones that I give you (as His Body, His Church) you will in effect fulfill ALL the others. Jesus loves His Body like He loves Himself and all He wants is for us to demonstrate that love (His Love in us) to those around us always!

My Prayer...

Deavenly Father I ask You to help me understand the love that You have placed within me through Jesus.

Help me Lord to live out and demonstrate that love to those I come in contact with on a daily basis.

Lord, place within my heart Your compassion for Your people and help me Lord to be the image of You that You have made me to be. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Chapter 23: Do you hate people, or do you just hate the evil they do?

Let those who love the Lord hate evil, for he guards the lives of His faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Psalm 97:10 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Ask yourself this question: Do I hate people, or do I just hate the evil they do and represent? Hate is a bold and powerful emotion as well as just a word.

We must not hate people, but we are to hate evil. It's a tough combination to pull off, but absolutely vital to our faith. Evil is here because of the evil one - the champion of hate, lies, and death (Satan).

So when evil rears its ugly head, let's be courageous and oppose Satan and his work. God's Word says we already have the victory over the devil through Jesus.

We just have to realize that and then walk it out in life. In the process, let's pray for those trapped in Satan's tentacles, even if they consider us enemies. This is what God directs in His Word.

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Matthew 5:44-45

MY PRAYER...

Almighty God, make my heart grieved by the evil in my world. Give me the power to be strong against those things opposed to your will and your character.

Yet Father, just as You redeemed me by grace, and rescued me while I was a captive to sin, give me courage to care about those who are in the evil one's embrace.

Grace me Lord to pray for those who are despitefully used by the evil one, help me to heap coals of fire upon their heads. Through my Savior, Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 24: Are you hearing the Word of Faith or is the word of the world deceiving you?

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: Rooted and built up in Him, and established in 'The Faith', as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after CHRIST.

Colossians 2: 6-8 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

aul is warning the church at Colossae to beware of anything or anyone that is not of the Word of God, that is not of the faith of God in Christ Jesus. He is telling them to make sure they are built up and rooted in the things of 'THE FAITH' in Jesus Christ and the Faith of God, not a faith. There is nothing wrong with with being called a 'Word of Faith' church, actually that is a compliment! Paul here sternly warns them to beware of those who will come in and seeming to be Godly men (but lacking the power of God), try to deceive you with

their philosophy, their doctrines of men (really the devil in disguise), and their vain deceit.

Teachings garnered from some seminary that didn't rightly divide the Word of God through revelation of His Word by the Holy Spirit's guidance but instead relied on man's so-called wisdom and knowledge.

Beware they will even quote scripture to you, but double check the Word and how they are using it!

They will try to bring in their traditions and history and other things of the world that don't line up with the Word of God.

Many will come speaking of bringing unity to the churches. But, he says, beware of these, Is it truly the unity of faith in Christ Jesus that they are trying to bring or is it some other type of unity (you're okay, I'm okay, we're okay).

Filter everything through the Word of God and Jesus Christ and Him Crucified. Anything that doesn't line up 100% with the Word of God and Jesus Christ and Him Crucified, throw it out (that's the bad doctrine they bring).

There is only one Faith (Christianity) and it is based on the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus by the power of God through the Holy Ghost and then you receiving of that grace into your lives by faith in God. There is NO other way!

MY PRAYER...

If ather, thank You for providing us Your Word as our Guide in life. Thank You Lord for the strength and wisdom You provide us through Your Holy Spirit to see through these attacks on our faith.

Father help us each and every day to put a guard on our hearts to protect us from the philosophy, vain deceit, and the traditions of men

Thank You Lord for sending me Jesus to show me the way, the only way! Lord I pray that those who come by any other means or for any other reason will be revealed.

That their plans will be openly displayed before us that we might be able by our faith to withstand them and remain firmly rooted and built up in the true Word of God. In Jesus' precious name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 25: Are you holding un-forgiveness or offense in your heart against someone?

J or if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 6:14-15 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

o not hold any un-forgiveness or offense in your heart against anyone. But, rather go to that person and confront them in person concerning the offense and ask forgiveness. Yes, even if it was they who offended you.

You should not let the sun set on you with un-forgiveness in your heart. The Bible says it will give place to the devil! You as a Christian are to go them and ask forgiveness. We must not hold any un-forgiveness in our hearts. It opens the door to Satan and allows him to come and cause trouble. What is Jesus saying here? Notice that the two thoughts or sentences are connected by the word "but", in other words one is dependent upon the other happening first. He's telling

us that if we hold un-forgiveness or offense in our hearts against anyone that God can NOT forgive us either! If God hasn't or can't forgive you, how can He answer any prayer that you offer up to Him?

Having trouble getting answers to prayers lately? Let's make a check, are we holding un-forgiveness toward someone? Let's get our hearts right with God and with our brethren and our answers to prayer will come.

MY PRAYER...

recious 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.

Father, Thank You that with a pure heart You hear my prayers, and I know if You hear them You will answer them.

Father, thank You for purging me and helping me to remove all un-forgiveness, strife, envy, and anything else that is not a part of Your Love from me. Thank You Lord for filling me with Your Love, Agape love for people. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 26: Do you know how much God loves you, no matter who you are or what you have done?

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:9-10 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Love as we normally think of it is a verb, it's an action, it is doing for others. We can't say it and make it happen, it must come from the heart (from the spirit) of man. Love must not only be spoken, but must also be shown, felt, and lived.

The beginning of love is God, God is love. He showed His love in the most sacrificial of ways so we could know how much we really meant to Him, of what incredible value we are to Him. The price of our adoption as sons and daughters was the emptying of heaven of its greatest treasure, God the Son, our Savior, the only begotten of the Father, Jesus.

Jesus, the Word, became a man like us. He laid aside His Deity and all the powers thereof to become a man just like us. He came to be our example, to show us how we must live before God. He came to show us how to use His Holy Spirit in our lives. He came and bore our sins, our poverty, our sickness and disease. He took our place on the cross and bore the punishment that we so justly deserved for our sin. He loved us before we ever loved Him. He exchanged our sins for His righteousness, health, and prosperity, that we might be free. Notice, according to the verse, that we must live through Him, there is no other way!

MY PRAYER...

Loving Father, thank You for adopting me into Your family, Thank You for loving me before I ever loved You. I can never thank You enough or ever repay You for Your kindness, but I can offer myself a living sacrifice unto You.

Please receive the service of my life from today forward as thanksgiving for Your grace (Your unmerited favor) and my small way of trying to share the love You have given me. Amen.

Chapter 27: There is NO other way!

The name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

There is NO other way! I didn't say that, the Word of God did! Who do you say Jesus is?

Jesus is God's gift to mankind. A gift is free, but you must receive it for it to be of benefit to you. Will you receive God's gift?

Jesus, "there's just something about that name!" The words to that old song are right on. That name made the Pharisees of old seethe with anger and indignation. But to me, that name is anything and everything I need for Salvation from what a warped, broken, and morally degenerate and corrupt world can NOT provide.

Salvation is more than just going to heaven someday for eternity.

Salvation is much more than just fire-insurance!
Salvation is for now, here on earth also! It is a package deal full of the promises of God. The Greek word soteria (so-tay-ree'-ah), translated above as salvation also means: rescue or safety; deliver, health, salvation, save, saving (the Hebrew word includes prosperity and liberty as well.)

Salvation through the blood of Jesus is total redemption from sin, sickness, disease and poverty, not when we get to Heaven, but, NOW here on earth just as it is in Heaven! Mat 6:10 "Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as [it is] in heaven." His will is total salvation now!

He is our Savior because He was willing to become a man like us (to lay aside His deity for a time) and come into this world, to live the only sinless life ever lived and to bear our limitations, shame, sickness, disease and sin, in His Body for us on the Cross.

He then triumphed over them through His death, burial and resurrection by the power of the Holy Spirit of God (the same Holy Spirit that He gave to us).

He defeated death, hell, and the grave; He defeated the devil, and now he (the devil) doesn't have a leg or feet to stand on!

MY PRAYER...

Through the precious name of Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, my Lord, I thank and praise You God. Your love has given the ultimate sacrifice for my sin and Your grace and power have given me the assurance of my resurrection from the dead by the same Holy Spirit that raised Jesus from the grave.

Your Son's willingness to spend a lifetime with and to be to me a Great High Priest who forever lives to intercede at Your right hand on my behalf has ensured my eternal destiny.

His example lets me know of Your great love. You so loved me, that You gave Your only begotten Son that I might have eternal life. Thank You

Father, for being so gracious and merciful, for giving me such a wonderful Savior. Amen.

Chapter 28: Do you have confidence before God to come boldly before His Throne of Grace?

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

1 John 5:14-15 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Confidence before God, that's an awesome feeling! Through the presence of Jesus in me, (the inner witness) at the Father's right hand, and by the intercession of the Holy Spirit for us, we can have confidence before God.

We can come boldly before the Creator of the universe and know that He not only hears us, but also cares for us (as any father would care for his children).

The Bible tells us how to approach God, and there's only one way, through Jesus. There is NO other way to approach God, NONE.

No priest, no Shaman, no man's idol, no not even through Mary. I didn't say that, God did in His Word!

One God, one Mediator between God and man, the Lord Jesus Christ. Oh, and one final thing, if he hears our requests we know we have what we ask.

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." (John 14:13-14)

The asking must of course be according to His Word and His will for you.

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, for the grace of Your listening ear I thank You more than words can say. You have given us Your Word that if we believe when we pray, and we ask according to Your will, then we can have what we say. For those that believe, we have confidence in Your Word.

I thank You, Father, that You provided us with THE Mediator through which we can come boldly before Your Throne of Grace.

That You made a way for us where there was no way.

You gave us confidence through Him that loves us.

In the authority of my brother and my Savior, Jesus and by Your grace and the power of Your interceding Holy Spirit, I offer You my praise, honor, thanks and love this day.

In Jesus name, Amen

Chapter 29: Jesus paid our debt once and for all and now we owe only one thing.

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellow man has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:8 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

This is not talking about your day to day bills and debts. This is the debt we owe to God. Jesus paid our debt once and for all and now we owe only one.

Thank God I don't owe the debt for my sin, Jesus paid that in full with His Blood on the Cross. But I owe others the same love, respect and grace with which God has treated me! That is the debt I now owe, to live the life of Christ, since He lives within me and to share that love and life with everyone.

MY PRAYER...

Holy God who owns all things, I thank You for not just

owning me, but for having bought me out of slavery, sin, sickness, disease, poverty, oppression, and death. Please re-kindle Your Holy love in my heart through Your Holy Spirit so I will be able to love others as You do.

Father, give me the want to and the power to do so In Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 30: Are you one whom a wise King will sift out and remove?

 ${\mathcal A}$ wise king sifts out the wicked, And brings the threshing wheel over them.

Proverbs 20:26 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

ow apply this to the teaching from yesterday concerning all authority. Ouch! If you are not subject to the authority it says that a wise king (those in authority) will sift out the wicked (will remove those who do not place themselves subject to the God given authority) and run the threshing wheel over them, in other words he will crush them.

And these authorities have God's Word backing them to do it! For those of you too young or from the city, a threshing wheel was/is a very large heavy device used to separate the grain from the chaff. You say, but what if those in authority are the wicked ones?

God will sift them out in His own time, won't He.
Remember King Saul? Did not God eventually remove him?

MY PRAYER...

If ather God, I thank You that I am free in You and that You have and are giving me wisdom and revelation knowledge of Your Word.

I thank You that You are quickening in my heart the meaning of Your Holy Word and how it applies in everyday life.

Lord help me to understand who those are that You have given authority over me so that I may walk accordingly.

Lord help us to know how to pray for those in authority so that your will be done through them. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

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 42 years.