

# Morning to Evening Prayer

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh... <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control.”

Galatians 5:16



*Seeking the renewing of lives through God's compelling  
love in Lynchburg and the world*

## **Introduction to Morning to Evening Prayer**

Before Jesus' death on the cross, He encouraged His disciples that when He leaves, He will send another Helper, the Holy Spirit. Jesus taught that this Spirit will remind them of all His teaching, empower them for mission, and give them words to say as they proclaim the good news that Christ is risen. Ordinary Time is that time after Resurrection where we focus on the ongoing work of the Spirit, who sanctifies and sends the church on mission into the world to declare Christ is King!

Psalm 92 encourages a regular rhythm of prayer from morning to evening. "It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; <sup>2</sup> to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night. <sup>3</sup> to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. <sup>4</sup> For You, O Lord, have made me glad by Your work; at the works of Your hands I sing for joy."

As we pray in the morning, we pray with the assurance of God's love and seek His loving guidance each day. We seek direction from the Word of God as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path (Psalm 119:105). This Word of God dwells richly inside us as we pray it in the morning. Midday we continue to seek the Lord in order to make the most of our remaining time with insight and wisdom.

We end the evening with thankfulness for God's faithfulness, reflecting on all His work throughout the day. Remembering God's faithfulness, we often realize our unfaithfulness. As we confess our sins, God forgives and cleanses us through Christ's atoning work, His sacrifice for our sin. We respond with thankfulness for His mercy.

In the Rhythm for Morning to Evening Prayer, you will see the different elements of the Morning, Midday, and Evening Prayer Guides. The bullet points under each element describes how to practice each one. There is a new guide for each week of the month to follow each day: morning, midday, and evening. Daily there is a new morning and evening Psalm, morning Scripture, and midday Proverb. The Sunday Catechism can be found in the index section in the back (pg. 35ff). You may use this guide individually or with a group by having a leader read the plain text and everyone read the bold. This pattern of prayer helps us to be glad in the work of the Lord and to sing for joy in His presence as we seek His guidance.

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## Rhythm for Morning to Evening Prayer

### Morning Prayer Guide:<sup>1</sup>

- † **PSALM PRAYER:** Ephesians 5:18-20 (*see Psalm Index*)
- Praise God for His character and work in the Psalm.
  - Seek God based on the words of the Psalm.
- † **SCRIPTURE READING** 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (*see Scripture Index*)
- Meditation: Read and consider key phrases, prepositions, people, plots, connections, and redemptive themes.
  - Adoration: Read and adore God for His great character and kingdom clarified in the verse.
  - Confession: Read and confess ways you do not reflect God's character and kingdom in the verse.
  - Thanksgiving: Read and give thanks for God's grace, forgiveness, and help in or around the verse (foreshadowed/promised in OT & fulfilled in Christ's life, death and resurrection in NT).
  - Supplication: Read and seek God's guidance in applying the text. Write down the application.
- † **THE GLORIA** Ephesians 1:3
- Sing praise to our Triune God for His holiness, greatness, and presence.
- † **THE CREED** Titus 1:9
- Hold firm to the trustworthy Word and sound doctrine taught.
- † **THE LORD'S PRAYER** Luke 11:1-4
- Recite the Lord's Prayer so that your personal prayer might be shaped by the structure of the Lord's Prayer.
- † **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2  
(Pray Forward into the day)
- Pray forward into the day, focusing on your schedule, concerns of the day, and updated prayer list.
- † **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** 2 Corinthians 1:20
- Trust in God's promise of His daily presence and provision as you live out God's mission for the day.

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<sup>1</sup> For Shortened Prayer: Scripture Reading, Lord's Prayer, Personal Prayer, Promise for the Day

## Midday Prayer Guide

† **PSALM PRAYER** Ephesians 5:18-20 (*see Psalm Index*)  
- *Praise God's character/work & seek God based on the Psalm.*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER**  
- *Pray for God's wisdom to guide you for the rest of the day.*

## Evening Prayer Guide<sup>2</sup>

† **PSALM PRAYER** Ephesians 5:18-20 (*see Psalm Index*)  
- *Praise God's character/work & seek God based on the Psalm.*

† **CONFESSION** 1 John 1:9  
- *Consider your daily activities, attitudes, and interactions and confess any sinful ways you broke God's law or failed to fully obey God's law.*

† **GOSPEL PROMISE** Psalm 32:5  
- *Remember the promise of Christ's forgiveness through His life, death, and resurrection.*

† **THANKSGIVING PRAYERS** Psalm 136:1  
- *Rejoice in Christ's forgiveness, reflect on your day, and give thanks for the many blessings and opportunities of the day.*

† **SONG OF PRAISE** Psalm 103:1-3  
- *Sing praise to God because all blessings come from Him.*

† **SUNDAY CATECHISM** Titus 1:9 (*see Catechism Index*)  
- *Hold firm to the trustworthy Word and sound doctrine taught.*

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2  
(*Pray Backward over the day*)  
- *Pray back over your day concerning events and interactions you experienced throughout the day.*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** 2 Corinthians 1:20  
- *Trust in God's promise of rest and care for the night hours.*

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<sup>2</sup> For Shortened Prayer: Psalm Prayer & Personal Prayer

## Morning Prayer Guide 05/31-06/06

### † PSALM PRAYER *(see Psalm Index)*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † SCRIPTURE READING *(see Scripture Index)*

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of  
the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.

**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of  
Your law.**

*(Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply)*

### † THE GLORIA “Alleluia! Alleluia” *(Ebenezer)*

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;  
Alleluia to the Savior, Who has won the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.  
Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.**

### † THE CREED Titus 3:3-5

**<sup>3</sup>For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray,  
slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in  
malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. <sup>4</sup>But  
when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior  
appeared, <sup>5</sup>He saved us, not because of works done by us in  
righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing  
of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>Whom He  
poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so  
that being justified by His grace we might become heirs  
according to the hope of eternal life.**

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 105:3-4

“<sup>3</sup>Glory in His holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

**<sup>4</sup>Seek the Lord and His strength;  
seek His presence continually!”**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Acts 1:8

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!

**“<sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”**

**Midday Prayer Guide 05/31-06/06**

† **PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

**Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days

**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 05/31-06/06

### † PSALM PRAYER *(see Psalm Index)*

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

God of glory and grace, there is no one like You in heaven or earth and no name greater than Your name. You act for the sake of Your holy name, to declare Your glory to all the earth.

**But we have profaned the name of the Lord by forgetting Your glory and forsaking Your covenant. We are unclean because of the filthiness of our sin and the fleeting pursuit of idolatry. We loathe our iniquities and are ashamed of our evil ways. Lord have mercy!**

*(Confess personal sin)*

Vindicate the holiness of Your great name and cleanse us of our great sin.

**Forgive us through Christ our Savior. Holy Spirit, cleanse us of our idols, soften our hard hearts, and cause us to walk in Your statutes and to be careful to obey Your rules.**

### † GOSPEL PROMISE Joel 2:12-13

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

#### † SONG OF PRAISE *Spirit of the Living God*

**Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.  
Break me! Melt me! Mold me! Fill me!  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.**

### SUNDAY CATECHISM *(see Catechism Index)*

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 105:3-4

“<sup>3</sup> Glory in His holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

**<sup>4</sup> Seek the Lord and His strength;  
seek His presence continually!”**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart

than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**<sup>8</sup> In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**



## Morning Prayer Guide 06/07-06/13

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**  
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

### † SCRIPTURE READING (*see Scripture Index*)

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.  
**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your law.**  
(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

### † THE GLORIA “Gloria Patri” (*Greatorex*)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end! A—men, A—men!**

### † THE CREED The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who, for us and our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;**

**Who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Hebrews 4:15-16

“<sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest Who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one Who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

**<sup>16</sup>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Matthew 28:18-20

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!  
**“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

**Midday Prayer Guide 06/07-06/13**

† **PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.  
**Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days  
**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 06/07-06/13

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

Father, You have welcomed us in the abundance of Your steadfast love and sovereign mercy.

**Father, forgive us for rejecting Your welcome. We have ignored Your goodness and not cried out to You in humble dependence.**

Jesus, You have welcomed us in the gracious act of Your redemption and Your kingly rule.

**Jesus, forgive us for rejecting Your welcome. We have ignored Your forgiveness and not submitted to Your rule in our thoughts, our words, and our deeds.**

Spirit, You have welcomed us in the life-giving presence of Your fellowship.

**Spirit, forgive us for rejecting Your welcome. We have ignored Your daily presence and have not borne the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self-control.**

*(Confess personal sin)*

Forgive us God the Father, through Jesus the Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Father, fill us with Your love. Jesus, fill us with Your grace. Holy Spirit, fill us with Your power. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### † GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 7:24-25

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

† SONG OF PRAISE *Holy, Holy, Holy*  
**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!**  
**Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;**  
**Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!**  
**God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, Holy, Holy, all the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy, though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth and sky and  
sea;  
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

† **SUNDAY CATECHISM** (*see Catechism Index*)

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Hebrews 4:15-16

“<sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest Who is unable to  
sympathize with our weaknesses, but one Who in every respect  
has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

<sup>16</sup> **Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,  
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of  
need.”**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

## Morning Prayer Guide 06/14-06/20

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**  
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

### † SCRIPTURE READING (*see Scripture Index*)

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of  
the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.  
**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of  
Your law.**

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

† **THE GLORIA** “Praise and Glory to the Father” (*Regent Square*)  
**Praise and glory to the Father, praise and glory to the Son,  
Praise and glory to the Spirit: ever Three and ever One;  
One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run!**

### † THE CREED Philippians 2:4-11

“<sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> Who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2-4

“<sup>2</sup> Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

<sup>3</sup> **At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—** <sup>4</sup> **that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Isaiah 52:7

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!  
“<sup>7</sup> **How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”**”

**Midday Prayer Guide 06/14-06/20**

† **PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.  
**Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days  
**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 06/14-06/20

### † PSALM PRAYER *(see Psalm Index)*

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

**Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for ignoring Your immensity and greatness.**

**Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that You rule the nations and our small lives.**

**Holy Spirit, forgive us for minimizing Your power and squandering Your gifts.**

**We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O Triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, halfhearted conviction, and only mild repentance.**

*(Confess personal sin)*

Forgive us God the Father, through Jesus the Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Father, fill us with Your love. Jesus, fill us with Your grace.**

**Holy Spirit, fill us with Your power. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### † GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 8:1-2

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

#### † SONG OF PRAISE *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,**

**In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,**

**Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,**

**Almighty, victorious, Thy great Name we praise.**

**Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,**

**Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;**

**Thy justice like mountains high soaring above**

**Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!**

† **SUNDAY CATECHISM** (*see Catechism Index*)

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2-4

“<sup>2</sup> Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

<sup>3</sup> **At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—** <sup>4</sup> **that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**



## Morning Prayer Guide 06/21-06/27

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † SCRIPTURE READING (*see Scripture Index*)

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of  
the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.

**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of  
Your law.**

*(Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply)*

### † THE GLORIA “Glorify Your Name” (*Adkins*)

**FATHER, we love You, we praise You, we adore You: Glorify  
Your name in all the earth! Glorify Your name, glorify Your  
name, glorify Your name in all the earth!**

*(Repeat, using: JESUS and SPIRIT)*

### † THE CREED 1 Corinthians 15:1-6

**Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached  
to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which  
you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to  
you—unless you believed in vain.**

**<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also  
received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the  
Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that He was buried, that He was raised on the third  
day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that He appeared  
to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then He appeared to more than  
five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive,  
though some have fallen asleep.**

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 27:7-8

<sup>7</sup> Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

<sup>8</sup> **You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to You, "Your face, Lord, do I seek."**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** John 14:12-14

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!

<sup>12</sup> **Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it."**

**Midday Prayer Guide 06/21-06/27**

† **PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

**Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days

**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 06/21-06/27

### † PSALM PRAYER *(see Psalm Index)*

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that our lives are not pure and holy  
apart from the cleansing we have through the work of Christ.  
**We have shut our eyes, our mouths, our hands and our hearts  
from Your love and from loving our neighbors.**

Open our eyes,  
**that we may see Your image in the ones we say we love.**

Open our ears,  
**that we may be quicker to listen than to speak.**

Open our mouths,  
**to speak good rather than evil of our neighbors.**

Open our hands,  
**in generosity and help us loosen our clenched fists.**

Open our hearts  
**to a desire to follow Jesus in full obedience to Your will and  
Your way.**

*(Confess Personal Sins)*

Forgive us God the Father, through Jesus the Son, in the power  
of the Holy Spirit.

**Father, fill us with Your love. Jesus, fill us with Your grace.  
Holy Spirit, fill us with Your power. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### † GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 8:3-4

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

#### † SONG OF PRAISE *O Worship the King*

**O worship the king all glorious above,  
O gratefully sing His power and His love;  
Our shield and defender, the ancient of days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.**

**O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.**

**The earth with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, Thy pow'r hath founded of old;  
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,  
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

† **SUNDAY CATECHISM** (*see Catechism Index*)

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 27:7-8

<sup>7</sup> Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and  
answer me!

<sup>8</sup> **You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to You,  
“Your face, Lord, do I seek.”**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

**Morning Prayer Guide 06/28-07/04**

† **PSALM PRAYER** (*see Psalm Index*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**  
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

† **SCRIPTURE READING** (*see Scripture Index*)

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of  
the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.  
**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of  
Your law.**

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

† **THE GLORIA** “Gloria Patri” (*Greatorex*)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end! A—men, A—men!**

† **THE CREED** The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and  
earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was  
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He  
descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God  
the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the  
quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy  
catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of  
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

† **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy  
kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give  
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we  
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver  
us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the  
glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 1:9-10

“<sup>9</sup> And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

<sup>10</sup> **so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.”**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Romans 8:13-14

Spirit, empower us as Christ’s witnesses to the end of the earth!

“<sup>13</sup> **For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.**

<sup>14</sup> **For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”**

**Midday Prayer Guide 06/28-07/04**

**PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

**Gladden the soul of Your servant, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days

**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 06/28-07/04

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

Father, You are the Vinedresser and we are Your vineyard,  
created to bear fruit to Your glory.

**Forgive us for our barren lives. Apart from You we have no direction.**

Jesus, You are the Vine and we are the branches, created to  
abide in Your life-giving love.

**Forgive us for our self-reliance. Apart from You we cannot bear fruit.**

Holy Spirit, You are the Helper and we are the needy, created  
to bear witness to Jesus.

**Forgive us for our pride. Apart from You we cannot serve on mission.**

*(Confess personal sin)*

Forgive us God the Father, through Jesus the Son, in the power  
of the Holy Spirit.

**Father, fill us with Your love. Jesus, fill us with Your grace.  
Holy Spirit, fill us with Your power. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

**GOSPEL PROMISE** Romans 8:33-34

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

#### † SONG OF PRAISE *We are God's People*

**We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,  
Born of His Spirit, established by His Word;  
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand:  
O Let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart and hand  
in hand.**

**We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,  
For we have known it, the love of God out-poured;  
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given:  
O Let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that  
pleases Heaven.**

**We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us be a family, diverse yet truly one:  
O Let us give our gifts to God, and so shall His work on earth  
be done.**

**We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,  
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;  
We die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire:  
Yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light,  
and to inspire.**

† **SUNDAY CATECHISM** (*see Catechism Index*)

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 1:9-10

“<sup>9</sup> And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray  
for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of  
His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

<sup>10</sup> **so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing  
to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the  
knowledge of God.”**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**



## Morning Prayer Guide 07/05-07/11

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † SCRIPTURE READING (*see Scripture Index*)

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of  
the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.

**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of  
Your law.**

*(Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply)*

### † THE GLORIA “Alleluia! Alleluia” (*Ebenezer*)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;  
Alleluia to the Savior, Who has won the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.  
Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.**

### † THE CREED Colossians 1:15-20

**“<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all  
creation. <sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created, in heaven and  
on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions  
or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him  
and for Him. <sup>17</sup> And He is before all things, and in Him all  
things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And He is the head of the body, the  
church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that  
in everything He might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup> For in Him all the  
fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through Him to  
reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven,  
making peace by the blood of His cross.”**

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 70:4-5

<sup>4</sup> May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You! May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

<sup>5</sup> **But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay!"**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Genesis 12:1-3

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!

**"Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'"**

**Midday Prayer Guide 07/05-07/11**

† **PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

**Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days

**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 07/05-07/11

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love;  
according to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

**Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.**

For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.  
**Against You, You alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight,**

You are justified in Your sentence and blameless when You pass judgment.

**We are guilty of our sin. Lord, have mercy on us.**

*(Confess personal sin)*

Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean;

**Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**

### † GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 8:37-39

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

#### † SONG OF PRAISE *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

**My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

*Chorus:*

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.  
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils his lovely face,  
I rest upon unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry rough and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil.**

*Chorus*

**His oath, His covenant, His blood  
Support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.**

*Chorus*

† **SUNDAY CATECHISM** (*see Catechism Index*)

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 70:4-5

“<sup>4</sup> May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You! May  
those who love Your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”

<sup>5</sup> **But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my  
help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay!”**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

## Morning Prayer Guide 07/12-07/18

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**  
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

### † SCRIPTURE READING (*see Scripture Index*)

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of  
the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.  
**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of  
Your law.**

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

### † THE GLORIA “Praise and Glory to the Father” (*Regent Square*)

**Praise and glory to the Father, praise and glory to the Son,  
Praise and glory to the Spirit: ever Three and ever One;  
One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run!**

### † THE CREED Titus 3:3-5

<sup>3</sup> For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray,  
slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in  
malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. <sup>4</sup> But  
when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior  
appeared, <sup>5</sup> He saved us, not because of works done by us in  
righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing  
of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> Whom He  
poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so  
that being justified by His grace we might become heirs  
according to the hope of eternal life.

### † THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy  
kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give  
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we  
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver  
us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the  
glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Jude 1:20-21

“<sup>20</sup> But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

<sup>21</sup> **keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Isaiah 51:1-2

Spirit, empower us as Christ’s witness to the end of the earth!

**“Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup> Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him.”**

### **Midday Prayer Guide 07/12-07/18**

† **PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

**Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days

**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 07/12-07/18

### † PSALM PRAYER *(see Psalm Index)*

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love;  
according to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

**Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.**

Behold, we were brought forth in iniquity,

**And in sin did our mother conceive us.**

Hide Your face from our sins,

**And blot out all our iniquities. Lord, have mercy on us.**

*(Confess personal sin)*

Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have broken rejoice.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.**

### † GOSPEL PROMISE Galatians 3:13-14

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

#### † SONG OF PRAISE *Blessed Assurance*

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!**

**O what a foretaste of glory divine!**

**Heir of salvation, purchase of God,**

**Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood**

*Chorus:*

**This is my story, this is my song,**

**Praising my Savior all the day long;**

**This is my story, this is my song,**

**Praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bringing from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

*Chorus*

**Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.**

*Chorus*

† **SUNDAY CATECHISM** (*see Catechism Index*)

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Jude 1:20-21

“<sup>20</sup> But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy  
faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

<sup>21</sup> **keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of  
our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**



## Morning Prayer Guide 07/19-07/25

### † PSALM PRAYER (*see Psalm Index*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths will declare Your praise.**  
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

### † SCRIPTURE READING (*see Scripture Index*)

Sovereign Spirit, as we with unveiled face behold the glory of  
the Lord, transform us and conform us to the image of Christ.  
**Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of  
Your law.**

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

### † THE GLORIA “Alleluia! Alleluia” (*Ebenezer*)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;  
Alleluia to the Savior, Who has won the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.  
Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.**

### † THE CREED 1 Corinthians 15:1-6

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached  
to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which  
you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to  
you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also  
received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the  
Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that He was buried, that He was raised on the third  
day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that He appeared  
to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then He appeared to more than  
five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive,  
though some have fallen asleep.

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 28:7-8

“<sup>6</sup> Blessed be the Lord!

For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

**<sup>7</sup> The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.”**

*(Pray Forward into the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Galatians 6:9-10

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!

**“<sup>9</sup> And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”**

**Midday Prayer Guide 07/19-07/25**

† **PSALM PRAYER** *(see Psalm Index-Morning Psalm)*

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

**Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.**

*(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)*

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** *(see Proverbs Index)*

So teach us to number our days

**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

*(Read Proverbs and pray)*

## Evening Prayer Guide 07/19-07/25

### † PSALM PRAYER *(see Psalm Index)*

By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,  
**and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

*(Read Psalm and pray)*

### † CONFESSION

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love;  
according to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

**Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.**

Hide Your face from our sins,

**And blot out all our iniquities.**

Deliver us from bloodguiltiness, O God,

**O God of our salvation, and our tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness. Lord, have mercy on us.**

*(Confess personal sin)*

Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit.

**Then we will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You.**

### † GOSPEL PROMISE Galatians 4:4-7

### † THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

† SONG OF PRAISE *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,**

**Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;**

**Streams of mercy, never ceasing,**

**Call for songs of loudest praise,**

**Teach me some melodious sonnet,**

**Sung by flaming tongues above;**

**Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,**

**Mount of God's unchanging love.**

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
Hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wand'ring from the fold of God:  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be;  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

**SUNDAY CATECHISM** (*see Catechism Index*)

† **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 28:7-8

“<sup>6</sup> Blessed be the Lord!

For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

<sup>7</sup> **The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.”**

*(Pray Backward over the day)*

† **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“<sup>7</sup> You have put more joy in my heart

than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

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## Catechism Index

### Westminster Confession of Faith

**Instructions:** The Westminster Confession of Faith is divided by multiple topics (e.g. Of the Holy Scripture) indicated by the chapter number. The theology is then explained in confession statements broken down into different Roman numeral points. For each Roman numeral confession statement you will find various Bible texts which support the statement. Read the whole chapter for the Sunday date then explore any supporting verses.

#### **05/31 Chapter 19**

##### **Of the Law of God.**

I. God gave to Adam a law, as a covenant of works, by which He bound him and all his posterity to personal, entire, exact, and perpetual obedience; promised life upon the fulfilling, and threatened death upon the breach of it: and endued him with power and ability to keep it.(a)

(a) Gen. 1:26, 27 with Gen. 2:17; Rom. 2:14, 15; Rom. 10:5; Rom. 5:12, 19; Gal. 3:10, 12; Eccles. 7:29; Job 28:28.

II. This law, after his fall, continued to be a perfect rule of righteousness, and, as such, was delivered by God upon Mount Sinai, in ten commandments, and written in two tables:(b) the four first commandments containing our duty towards God; and the other six our duty to man.(c)

(b) James 1:25; James 2:8, 10, 11, 12; Rom. 13:8, 9; Deut. 5:32; Deut. 10:4; Ex. 34:1.

(c) Matt. 22:37, 38, 39, 40.

III. Beside this law, commonly called moral, God was pleased to give to the people of Israel, as a church under age, ceremonial laws, containing several typical ordinances, partly of worship, prefiguring Christ, His graces, actions, sufferings, and benefits;(d) and partly holding forth divers instructions of moral duties.(e) All which ceremonial laws are now abrogated, under the new testament.(f)

(d) Heb. 9 chap.; Heb. 10:1; Gal. 4:1, 2, 3; Col. 2:17.

(e) I Cor. 5:7; II Cor. 6:17; Jude ver. 23.

(f) Col. 2:14, 16, 17; Dan. 9:27; Eph. 2:15, 16.

IV. To them also, as a body politic, He gave sundry judicial laws, which expired together with the State of that people; not obliging any other now, further than the general equity thereof may require.(g)

(g) Ex. 21 chap.; Ex. 22:1 to 29; Gen. 49:10 with I Pet. 2:13, 14; Matt. 5:17, with ver. 38, 39; I Cor. 9:8, 9, 10.



V. The moral law doth forever bind all, as well justified persons as others, to the obedience thereof;(h) and that, not only in regard of the matter contained in it, but also in respect of the authority of God the Creator, who gave it:(i) neither doth Christ, in the Gospel, any way dissolve, but much strengthen this obligation.(k)

(h) Rom. 13:8, 9, 10; Eph. 6:2; I John 2:3, 4, 7, 8.

(i) James 2:10, 11.

(k) Matt. 5:17, 18, 19; James 2:8; Rom. 3:31.

VI. Although true believers be not under the law, as a covenant of works, to be thereby justified, or condemned;(l) yet is it of great use to them, as well as to others; in that, as a rule of life informing them of the will of God, and their duty, it directs, and binds them to walk accordingly;(m) discovering also the sinful pollutions of their nature, hearts, and lives;(n) so as, examining themselves thereby, they may come to further conviction of, humiliation for, and hatred against sin;(o) together with a clearer sight of the need they have of Christ, and the perfection of His obedience.(p) It is likewise of use to the regenerate, to restrain their corruptions, in that it forbids sin:(q) and the threatenings of it serve to show what even their sins deserve; and what afflictions, in this life, they may expect for them, although freed from the curse thereof threatened in the law.(r) The promises of it, in like manner, show them God's approbation of obedience, and what blessings they may expect upon the performance thereof;(s) although not as due to them by the law, as a covenant of works.(t) So as, a man's doing good, and refraining from evil, because the law encourageth to the one and deterreth from the other, is no evidence of his being under the law; and not under grace.(u)

(l) Rom. 6:14; Gal. 2:16; Gal. 3:13; Gal. 4:4, 5; Acts 13:39; Rom. 8:1.

(m) Rom. 7:12, 22, 25; Ps. 119:4, 5, 6; I Cor. 7:19; Gal.

5:14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.

(n) Rom. 7:7; Rom. 3:20.

(o) James 1:23, 24, 25; Rom. 7:9, 14, 24.

(p) Gal. 3:24; Rom. 7:24, 25; Rom. 8:3, 4.

(q) Jam. 2:11; Ps. 119:101, 104, 128.

(r) Ezra 9:13, 14; Ps. 89:30, 31, 32, 33, 34.

(s) Lev. 26:1 to 14 with II Cor. 6:16; Eph. 6:2, 3; Ps. 37:11 with Matt. 5:5; Ps. 19:11.

(t) Gal. 2:16; Luke 17:10.

(u) Rom. 6:12, 14; I Pet. 3:8, 9, 10, 11, 12, with Ps. 34:12, 13, 14, 15, 16; Heb. 12:28, 29.

VII. Neither are the aforementioned uses of the law contrary to the grace of the Gospel, but do sweetly comply with it;(w) the Spirit of Christ subduing and enabling the will of man to do that, freely and cheerfully, which the will

of God, revealed in the law, requireth to be done.(x)

(w) Gal. 3:21.

(x) Ezek. 36:27; Heb. 8:10 with Jer. 31:33.

## **06/07 Chapter 20**

### **Of Christian Liberty, and Liberty of Conscience.**

I. The liberty which Christ hath purchased for believers under the Gospel consists in their freedom from the guilt of sin, and condemning wrath of God, the curse of the moral law;(a) and, in their being delivered from this present evil world, bondage to Satan, and dominion of sin;(b) from the evil of afflictions, the sting of death, the victory of the grace, and everlasting damnation;(c) as also, in their free access to God,(d) and their yielding obedience unto Him, not out of slavish fear, but a child-like love and willing mind.(e) All which were common also to believers under the law.(f) But, under the new testament, the liberty of Christians is further enlarged, in their freedom from the yoke of the ceremonial law, to which the Jewish Church was subjected;(g) and in greater boldness of access to the throne of grace,(h) and in fuller communications of the free Spirit of God, than believers under the law did ordinarily partake of.(i)

(a) Tit. 2:14; I Thess. 1:10; Gal. 3:13.

(b) Gal. 1:4; Col. 1:13; Acts 26:18; Rom. 6:14.

(c) Rom. 8:28; Ps. 119:71; I Cor. 15:54, 55, 56, 57; Rom. 8:1.

(d) Rom. 5:1, 2.

(e) Rom. 8:14, 15; I John 4:18.

(f) Gal. 3:9, 14.

(g) Gal. 4:1, 2, 3, 6, 7; Gal. 5:1; Acts 15:10, 11.

(h) Heb. 4:14, 16; Heb. 10:19, 20, 21, 22.

(i) John 7:38, 39; II Cor. 3:13, 17, 18.

II. God alone is Lord of the conscience,(k) and hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men, which are in any thing contrary to His Word; or beside it, if matters of faith or worship.(l) So that, to believe such doctrines, or to obey such commands, out of conscience,(m) is to betray true liberty of conscience: and the requiring of an implicit faith, and an absolute and blind obedience is to destroy liberty of conscience, and reason also.(n)

(k) Jam. 4:12; Rom. 14:4.

(l) Acts 4:19; Acts 5:29; I Cor. 7:23; Matt. 23:8, 9, 10; II Cor. 1:24; Matt. 15:9.

(m) Col. 2:20, 22, 23; Gal. 1:10; Gal. 2:4, 5; Gal. 5:1.

(n) Rom. 10:17; Rom. 14:23; Isa. 8:20; Acts 17:11; John 4:22; Hos. 5:11;

Rev. 13:12, 16, 17; Jer. 8:9.

III. They who, upon pretense of Christian liberty, do practice any sin, or cherish any lust, do thereby destroy the end of Christian liberty, which is, that being delivered out of the hands of our enemies, we might serve the Lord, without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him, all the days of our life.(o)

(o) Gal. 5:13; I Pet. 2:16; II Pet. 2:19; John 8:34; Luke 1:74, 75.

IV. And because the powers which God hath ordained, and the liberty which Christ hath purchased, are not intended by God to destroy, but mutually to uphold and preserve one another; they who, upon pretense of Christian liberty, shall oppose any lawful power, or the lawful exercise of it, whether it be civil or ecclesiastical, resist the ordinance of God.(p) And, for their publishing of such opinions, or maintaining of such practices, as are contrary to the light of nature, or to the known principles of Christianity, whether concerning faith, worship, or conversation; or, to the power of godliness; or, such erroneous opinions or practices, as either in their own nature, or in the manner of publishing or maintaining them, are destructive to the external peace and order which Christ hath established in the Church, they may lawfully be called to account, and proceeded against by the censures of the Church,(q) and by the power of the civil magistrate.(r)

(p) Matt. 12:25; I Pet. 2:13, 14, 16; Rom. 13:1 to 8; Heb. 13:17.

(q) Rom. 1:32 with I Cor. 5:1, 5, 11, 13; II John ver. 10, 11, and II Thess. 3:14, and I Tim. 6:3, 4, 5, and Tit. 1:10, 11, 13, and Tit. 3:10 with Matt. 18:15, 16, 17; I Tim. 1:19, 20; Rev. 2:2, 14, 15, 20; Rev. 3:9.

(r) Deut. 13:6 to 12; Rom. 13:3, 4 with II John ver. 10, 11; Ezra 7:23, 25, 26, 27, 28; Rev. 17:12, 16, 17; Neh. 13:15, 17, 21, 22, 25, 30; II Kings 23:5, 6, 9, 20, 21; II Chron. 34:33; II Chron. 15:12, 13, 16; Dan. 3:29; I Tim. 2:2; Isa. 49:23; Zech. 13:2, 3.

## **06/14 Chapter 21**

### **Of Religious Worship and the Sabbath-day.**

I. The light of nature showeth that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all, is good, and doth good unto all, and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served, with all the heart, and with all the soul, and with all the might.(a) But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by Himself, and so limited by His own revealed will, that He may not be worshipped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible

representation, or any other way not prescribed in the holy Scripture.(b)

(a) Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:24; Ps. 119:68; Jer. 10:7; Ps. 31:23; Ps. 18:3; Rom. 10:12; Ps. 62:8; Josh. 24:14; Mark 12:33.

(b) Deut. 12:32; Matt. 15:9; Acts 17:25; Matt. 4:9, 10; Deut. 4:15 to 20; Exod. 20:4, 5, 6; Col. 2:23.

II. Religious worship is to be given to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and to Him alone;(c) not to angels, saints, or any other creature:(d) and since the fall, not without a Mediator; nor in the mediation of any other but of Christ alone.(e)

(c) Matt. 4:10 with John 5:23 and II Cor. 13:14.

(d) Col. 2:18, Rev. 19:10; Rom. 1:25.

(e) John 14:6; I Tim. 2:5; Eph. 2:18; Col. 3:17.

III. Prayer, with thanksgiving, being one special part of religious worship,(f) is by God required of all men:(g) and that it may be accepted, it is to be made in the name of the Son,(h) by the help of His Spirit,(i) according to His will,(k) with understanding, reverence, humility, fervency, faith, love, and perseverance;(l) and, if vocal, in a known tongue.(m)

(f) Phil. 4:6.

(g) Ps. 65:2.

(h) John 14:13, 14; I Pet. 2:5.

(i) Rom. 8:26.

(k) I John 5:14.

(l) Ps. 47:7; Eccles. 5:1, 2; Heb. 12:28; Gen. 18:27; James 5:16; James 1:6, 7; Mark 11:24; Matt. 6:12, 14, 15; Col. 4:2; Eph. 6:18.

(m) I Cor. 14:14.

IV. Prayer is to be made for things lawful;(n) and for all sorts of men living, or that shall live hereafter:(o) but not for the dead,(p) nor for those of whom it may be known that they have sinned the sin unto death.(q)

(n) I John 5:14.

(o) I Tim. 2:1, 2; John 17:20; II Sam. 7:29; Ruth 4:12.

(p) II Sam. 12:21, 22, 23 with Luke 16:25, 26; Rev. 14:13.

(q) I John 5:16.

V. The reading of the Scriptures with godly fear,(r) the sound preaching(s) and conscionable hearing of the Word, in obedience unto God, with understanding, faith and reverence;(t) singing of psalms with grace in the heart;(u) as also, the due administration and worthy receiving of the sacraments instituted by Christ; are all parts of the ordinary religious worship of God:(w) beside religious oaths,(x) vows,(y) solemn fastings,(z) and

thanksgivings, upon special occasions,(a) which are, in their several times and seasons, to be used in a holy and religious manner.(b)

(r) Acts 15:21; Rev. 1:3.

(s) II Tim. 4:2.

(t) James 1:22; Acts 10:33; Matt. 13:19; Heb. 4:2; Isa. 66:2.

(u) Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19; James 5:13.

(w) Matt. 28:19; I Cor. 11:23 to 29; Acts 2:42.

(x) Deut. 6:13 with Neh. 10:29.

(y) Isa. 19:21 with Eccles. 5:4, 5.

(z) Joel 2:12; Esther 4:16; Matt. 9:15; I Cor. 7:5.

(a) Ps. 107 throughout; Esther 9:22.

(b) Heb. 12:28.

VI. Neither prayer, nor any other part of religious worship, is now under the Gospel either tied unto, or made more acceptable by any place in which it is performed, or towards which it is directed:(c) but God is to be worshipped everywhere,(d) in spirit and truth;(e) as in private families(f) daily,(g) and in secret each one by himself;(h) so, more solemnly, in the public assemblies, which are not carelessly or willfully to be neglected, or forsaken, when God, by His Word or providence, calls thereunto.(i)

(c) John 4:21.

(d) Mal. 1:11; I Tim. 2:8.

(e) John 4:23, 24.

(f) Jer. 10:25; Deut. 6:6, 7; Job 1:5; II Sam. 6:18, 20; I Pet. 3:7; Acts 10:2.

(g) Matt. 6:11.

(h) Matt. 6:6; Eph. 6:18.

(i) Isa. 56:6, 7; Heb. 10:25; Prov. 1:20, 21, 24; Prov. 8:34; Acts 13:42; Luke 4:16; Acts 2:42.

VII. As it is the law of nature, that, in general, a due proportion of time be set apart for the worship of God; so, in His Word, by a positive, moral, and perpetual commandment, binding all men, in all ages, He hath particularly appointed one day in seven, for a Sabbath, to be kept holy unto Him:(k) which, from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, was the last day of the week; and, from the resurrection of Christ, was changed into the first day of the week,(l) which, in Scripture, is called the Lord's Day,(m) and is to be continued to the end of the world, as the Christian Sabbath.(n)

(k) Exod. 20:8, 10, 11; Isa. 56:2, 4, 6, 7.

(l) Gen. 2:2, 3; I Cor. 16:1, 2; Acts 20:7.

(m) Rev. 1:10.

(n) Exod. 20:8, 10, with Matt. 5:17, 18.

VIII. This Sabbath is then kept holy unto the Lord, when men, after a due preparing of their hearts, and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, do not only observe an holy rest, all the day, from their own works, words, and thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations,(o) but also are taken up the whole time in the public and private exercises of His worship, and in the duties of necessity and mercy.(p)

(o) Exod. 20:8; Exod. 16:23, 25, 26, 29, 30; Exod. 31:15, 16, 17; Isa. 58:13; Neh. 13:15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22.

(p) Isa. 58:13; Matt. 12:1 to 13.

## **06/21 Chapter 22**

### **Of Lawful Oaths and Vows.**

I. A lawful oath is a part of religious worship,(a) wherein, upon just occasion, the person swearing solemnly calleth God to witness what he asserteth, or promiseth, and to judge him according to the truth or falsehood of what he sweareth.(b)

(a) Deut. 10:20.

(b) Exod. 20:7; Lev. 19:12; II Cor. 1:23, II Chron. 6:22, 23.

II. The name of God only is that by which men ought to swear; and therein it is to be used with all holy fear and reverence.(c) Therefore, to swear vainly or rashly, by that glorious and dreadful Name; or, to swear at all by any other thing, is sinful, and to be abhorred.(d) Yet, as in matters of weight and moment, an oath is warranted by the Word of God, under the New Testament, as well as under the Old;(e) so a lawful oath, being imposed by lawful authority, in such matters ought to be taken.(f)

(c) Deut. 6:13.

(d) Exod. 20:7; Jer. 5:7; Matt. 5:34, 37; James 5:12.

(e) Heb. 6:16; II Cor. 1:23; Isa. 65:16.

(f) I Kings 8:31; Neh. 13:25; Ezra 10:5.

III. Whosoever taketh an oath ought duly to consider the weightiness of so solemn an act; and therein to avouch nothing, but what he is fully persuaded is the truth.(g) Neither may any man bind himself by oath to anything but what is good and just, and what he believeth so to be, and what he is able and resolved to perform.(h) Yet is it a sin to refuse an oath touching anything that is good and just, being imposed by lawful authority.(i)

(g) Exod. 20:7; Jer. 4:2.

(h) Gen. 24:2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9.

(i) Num. 5:19, 21; Neh. 5:12; Exod. 22:7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

IV. An oath is to be taken in the plain and common sense of the words, without equivocation, or mental reservation.(k) It cannot oblige to sin: but in anything not sinful, being taken, it binds to performance, although to a man's own hurt.(l) Not is it to be violated, although made to heretics, or infidels.(m)

(k) Jer. 4:2; Ps. 24:4.

(l) I Sam. 25:22, 32, 33, 34; Ps. 15:4.

(m) Ezek. 17:16, 18, 19; Josh. 9:18, 19 with II Sam. 21:1.

V. A vow is of the like nature with a promissory oath, and ought to be made with the like religious care, and to be performed with the like faithfulness.(n)

(n) Isa. 19:21; Eccles. 5:4, 5, 6; Ps. 61:8; Ps. 66:13, 14.

VI. It is not to be made to any creature, but to God alone:(o) and that it may be accepted, it is to be made voluntarily, out of faith, and conscience of duty, in way of thankfulness for mercy received, or for the obtaining of what we want; whereby we more strictly bind ourselves to necessary duties; or to other things, so far and so long as they may fitly conduce thereunto.(p)

(o) Ps. 76:11; Jer. 44:25, 26.

(p) Deut. 23:21, 22, 23; Ps. 50:14; Gen. 28:20, 21, 22; I Sam. 1:11; Ps. 66:13, 14; Ps. 132:2, 3, 4, 5.

VII. No man may vow to do anything forbidden in the Word of God, or what would hinder any duty therein commanded, or which is not in his own power, and for the performance whereof he hath no promise of ability from God.(q)

In which respects, Popish monastical vows of perpetual single life, professed poverty, and regular obedience, are so far from being degrees of higher perfection, that they are superstitious and sinful snares, in which no Christian may entangle himself.(r)

(q) Acts 23:12, 14; Mark 6:26; Numb. 30:5, 8, 12, 13.

(r) Matt. 19:11, 12; I Cor. 7:2, 9; Eph. 4:28; I Peter 4:2; I Cor. 7:23.

## **06/28 Chapter 23**

### **Of the Civil Magistrate.**

I. God, the supreme Lord and King of all the world, hath ordained civil magistrates, to be, under Him, over the people, for His own glory, and the public good: and, to this end, hath armed them with the power of the sword, for the defense and encouragement of them that are good, and for the punishment of evil doers.(a)

(a) Rom. 13:1, 2, 3, 4; I Pet. 2:13, 14.

II. It is lawful for Christians to accept and execute the office of a magistrate, when called thereunto;(b) in the managing whereof, as they ought especially to maintain piety, justice, and peace, according to the wholesome laws of each commonwealth;(c) so for that end, they may lawfully now, under the New Testament, wage war, upon just and necessary occasion.(d)

(b) Prov. 8:15, 16; Rom. 13:1, 2, 4.

(c) Ps. 2:10, 11, 12; I Tim. 2:2; Ps. 82:3, 4; II Sam. 23:3; I Pet. 2:13.

(d) Luke 3:14; Rom. 13:4; Matt. 8:9, 10; Acts 10:1, 2; Rev. 17:14, 16.

III. The civil magistrate may not assume to himself the administration of the Word and sacraments, or the power of the keys of the kingdom of heaven:(e) yet he hath authority, and it is his duty, to take order, that unity and peace be preserved in the Church, that the truth of God be kept pure and entire; that all blasphemies and heresies be suppressed; all corruptions and abuses in worship and discipline prevented or reformed; and all the ordinances of God duly settled, administrated, and observed.(f) For the better effecting whereof, he hath power to call synods, to be present at them, and to provide that whatsoever is transacted in them be according to the mind of God.(g)

(e) II Chron. 26:18 with Matt. 18:17 and Matt. 16:19; I Cor. 12:28, 29; Eph. 4:11, 12; I Cor. 4:1, 2; Rom. 10:15; Heb. 5:4.

(f) Isa. 49:23; Ps. 122:9; Ezra 7:23, 25, 26, 27, 28; Lev. 24:16; Deut. 13:5, 6, 12; I Kings 18:4; I Chron. 13:1 to 9; II Kings 23:1 to 26; II Chron. 34:33; II Chron. 15:12, 13.

(g) II Chron. 19:8, 9, 10, 11; II Chron. 29 and 30; Matt. 2:4, 5.

IV. It is the duty of people to pray for magistrates,(h) to honor their persons,(i) to pay them tribute or other dues,(k) to obey their lawful commands, and to be subject to their authority, for conscience' sake.(l) Infidelity, or difference in religion, doth not make void the magistrates' just and legal authority, nor free the people from their due obedience to them:(m) from which ecclesiastical persons are not exempted,(n) much less hath the Pope any power and jurisdiction over them in their dominions, or over any of their people; and, least of all, to deprive them of their dominions, or lives, if he shall judge them to be heretics, or upon any other pretense whatsoever.(o)

(h) I Tim. 2:1, 2.

(i) I Pet. 2:17.

(k) Rom. 13:6, 7.

(l) Rom. 13:5; Tit. 3:1.

(m) I Pet. 2:13, 14, 16.

(n) Rom. 13:1; I Kings 2:35; Acts 25:9, 10, 11; II Pet. 2:1, 10, 11; Jude ver. 8, 9, 10, 11.

(o) II Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:15, 16, 17.



## **07/05 Chapter 24**

### **Of Marriage and Divorce.**

I. Marriage is to be between one man and one woman: neither is it lawful for any man to have more than one wife, nor for any woman to have more than one husband; at the same time.(a)

(a) Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5, 6; Prov. 2:17.

II. Marriage was ordained for the mutual help of husband and wife,(b) for the increase of mankind with a legitimate issue, and of the Church with an holy seed;(c) and for preventing of uncleanness.(d)

(b) Gen. 2:18.

(c) Mal. 2:15.

(d) I Cor. 7:2, 9.

III. It is lawful for all sorts of people to marry, who are able with judgment to give their consent.(e) Yet is it the duty of Christians to marry only in the Lord:(f) and therefore such as profess the true reformed religion should not marry with infidels, papists, or other idolaters: neither should such as are godly be unequally yoked, by marrying with such as are notoriously wicked in their life, or maintain damnable heresies.(g)

(e) Heb. 13:4; I Tim. 4:3; I Cor. 7:36, 37, 38; Gen. 24:57, 58.

(f) I Cor. 7:39.

(g) Gen. 34:14; Exod. 34:16; Deut. 7:3, 4; I Kings 11:4; Neh. 13:25, 26, 27; Mal. 2:11, 12; II Cor. 6:14.

IV. Marriage ought not to be within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity forbidden by the Word;(h) nor can such incestuous marriages ever be made lawful by any law of man or consent of parties, so as those persons may live together as man and wife.(i) The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own; nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own.(k)

(h) Lev. 18; I Cor. 5:1; Amos 2:7.

(i) Mark 6:18; Lev. 18:24, 25, 26, 27, 28.

(k) Lev. 20:19, 20, 21.

V. Adultery or fornication committed after a contract, being detected before marriage, giveth just occasion to the innocent party to dissolve that contract.(l) In the case of adultery after marriage, it is lawful for the innocent party to sue out a divorce:(m) and, after the divorce, to marry another, as if the offending party were dead.(n)

(l) Matt. 1:18, 19, 20.

(m) Matt. 5:31, 32.

(n) Matt. 19:9; Rom. 7:2, 3.

VI. Although the corruption of man be such as is apt to study arguments unduly to put asunder those whom God hath joined together in marriage: yet nothing but adultery, or such willful desertion as can no way be remedied by the Church or civil magistrate, is cause sufficient of dissolving the bond of marriage:(o) wherein, a public and orderly course of proceeding is to be observed; and the persons concerned in it not left to their own wills and discretion, in their own case.(p)

(o) Matt. 19:8, 9; I Cor. 7:15; Matt. 19:6.

(p) Deut. 24:1, 2, 3, 4.

## **07/12 Chapter 25**

### **Of the Church.**

I. The catholic or universal Church which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the Head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.(a)

(a) Eph. 1:10, 22, 23; Eph. 5:23, 27, 32; Col. 1:18.

II. The visible Church, which is also catholic or universal under the Gospel (not confined to one nation as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion;(b) and of their children:(c) and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ,(d) the house and family of God,(e) out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.(f)

(b) I Cor. 1:2; I Cor. 12:12, 13; Ps. 2:8; Rev. 7:9; Rom. 15:9, 10, 11, 12.

(c) I Cor. 7:14; Acts 2:39; Ezek. 16:20, 21; Rom. 11:16; Gen. 3:15; Gen. 17:7.

(d) Matt. 13:47; Isa. 9:7.

(e) Eph. 2:19; Eph. 3:15.

(f) Acts 2:47.

III. Unto this catholic visible Church Christ hath given the ministry, oracles, and ordinances of God, for the gathering and perfecting of the saints, in this life, to the end of the world: and doth by His own presence and Spirit, according to His promise, make them effectual thereunto.(g)

(g) I Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11, 12, 13; Matt. 28:19, 20; Isa. 59:21.

IV. This catholic Church hath been sometimes more, sometimes less visible.(h) And particular Churches, which are members thereof, are more or less pure, according as the doctrine of the Gospel is taught and embraced, ordinances administered, and public worship performed more or less purely in them.(i)

(h) Rom. 11:3, 4; Rev. 12:6, 14.

(i) Rev. 2 and 3; I Cor. 5:6, 7.

V. The purest Churches under heaven are subject both to mixture and error:(k) and some have so degenerated, as to become no Churches of Christ, but synagogues of Satan.(l) Nevertheless, there shall be always a Church on earth, to worship God according to His will.(m)

(k) I Cor. 13:12; Rev. 2 and 3; Matt. 13:24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 47.

(l) Rev. 18:2; Rom. 11:18, 19, 20, 21, 22.

(m) Matt. 16:18; Ps. 72:17; Ps. 102:28; Matt. 28:19, 20.

VI. There is no other head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ(n). Nor can the Pope of Rome, in any sense, be head thereof.

(n) Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22.

## **07/19 Chapter 26**

### **Of the Communion of the Saints.**

I. All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Head by His Spirit and by faith, have fellowship with Him in His grace, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory:(a) and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces,(b) and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man.(c)

(a) John 1:3; Eph. 3:16, 17, 18, 19; John 1:16; Eph. 2:5, 6; Phil. 3:10; Rom. 6:5, 6; II Tim. 2:12.

(b) Eph. 4:15, 16; I Cor. 12:7; I Cor. 3:21, 22, 23; Col. 2:19.

(c) I Thess. 5:11, 14; Rom. 1:11, 12, 14; I John 3:16, 17, 18; Gal. 6:10.

II. Saints by profession are bound to maintain a holy fellowship and communion in the worship of God; and in performing such other spiritual services as tend to their mutual edification;(d) as also in relieving each other in outward things, according to their several abilities, and necessities. Which communion, as God offereth opportunity, is to be extended unto all those who, in every place, call upon the name of the Lord Jesus.(e)

(d) Heb. 10:24, 25; Acts 2:42, 46; Isa. 2:3; I Cor. 11:20.

(e) Acts 2:44, 45; I John 3:17; II Cor. 8 and 9 chapters; Acts 11:29, 30.

III. This communion which the saints have with Christ, doth not make them, in any wise, partakers of the substance of His Godhead; or to be equal with Christ, in any respect: either of which to affirm is impious and blasphemous.(f) Nor doth their communion one with another, as saints, take away, or infringe the title or propriety which each man hath in his goods and possessions.(g)

(f) Col. 1:18, 19; I Cor. 8:6; Isa. 42:8; I Tim. 6:15, 16; Ps. 45:7, with Heb. 1:8, 9.

(g) Exod. 20:15; Eph. 4:28; Acts 5:4.

Developed by Mike Palombo  
Mike@rivermont.org  
Rivermont EPC  
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