

Of Subjects to Magistrates.

P. And what is the duty of subjects to magistrates?

M. To reverence and honour them as the officers of God, and not speak dishonourably of them; to pay them due tribute, and to protect them according to your power in your place. To obey them in all lawful things, which it belongeth to their several powers to command; and to encourage others to the same obedience. To avoid all conspiracies, seditions, treasons, and rebellions. To approve and further the execution of true justice; to detect and resist all treasonable conspiracies in others; and to do all this for conscience sake, in obedience to God, and for the common good.

P. Must I, then, obey all the laws and commands of rulers?

M. You must obey none which command you any thing which God forbids; or which forbid you any thing which it is your duty to do by God's command; nor that which certainly and notoriously tends to the destruction of the general welfare.

How to spend every Day in a Family.

P. Will you, Sir, now lay down some particular directions how to spend every day in my family?

M. I will not impose upon you any unnecessary task, lest I hinder you, while I seem to help you. Let the time of your sleep be so much only

as health requires; for precious time is not to be wasted in unnecessary sluggishness.

Let your mind be so disposed toward God, that your waking thoughts may be directed towards him. Lift up your heart with thankfulness, for your night's rest, unto him: and think what a blessed rest you will have in the presence of his glory; and how great a privilege it is to be a partaker in his love, and under his protection. Spend not much time in dress, and use no vain attire that shall consume much time, or be productive of needless expense.

Betake yourself to prayer in private, until you are ready to join in family-prayer.

Let family-worship be performed twice a day, unless some extraordinary necessity hinder it, and let it be at the most convenient hours of the day.

Do all your business as the work of God, rather than your own; and do nothing but what it is his will that you should do, that you may expect from him both protection and reward. Often renew your dedication of yourself and all your concerns to him, with an actual intention to please and glorify him.

Set an high value on all your time. Perform the duties of your station with constant diligence, believing that it is part of your service towards God. Six days must you labour, and do all that you have to do. Idleness is the ruin of soul, body, and estate.

Be well aware of the frailty of your nature, and the special temptations of every day; and never intermit your watch against them.

If you labour alone, encourage such seasonable meditations as you need, and your business

will permit, and improve it into good conference, if you are in company. Not, however, so to talk of nothing else, as to turn all into weariness, or affected formality; but at seasonable times, and in a serious manner.

Crave God's blessing on your food, and return him thanks for it. Receive it, not chiefly to please your appetite, but to strengthen you for your duty and the service of God. And make your health and reason, and not your appetite, the measure both of eating and drinking. Make no provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts or desires thereof.

At evening return to your food, and to God's worship in your family. And at night, before your private devotion, reflect how you have spent your day; and cherish in your heart a special thankfulness for special mercies; and a special repentance for any great or aggravated sins that you may have committed; that, by a free confession, repentance, and faith, you may rise where you have fallen. And betake yourself to rest, with a holy confidence in God's protection, and delightful meditation of him.

Directions for Family Worship.

P. You tell me of family-worship twice a day; I pray you tell me how I must perform it.

M. Having all your family together that can come, read a portion of the holy Scripture, and particularly some psalm of praise; then in some well devised form of prayer call on God through Jesus Christ, and do the same at evening.

Read the Scriptures with a believing, reve-

rential, and spiritual mind, as the word of the living God, by which you must be ruled now, and judged hereafter, and which you must fully resolve to obey; as an humble learner of heavenly mysteries from the holy Spirit of God, and not as a proud and arrogant caviller or judge; nor as expecting philosophy or curious words, instead of the laws of God for our salvation. Read particularly the New Testament, and the most easy and practical parts of Scripture. Expound the darker passages by the plain and obvious ones. Read some commentary or annotations as you go, if you can, and consult your pastor on that which will be of the greatest use to you.

P. Have you, Sir, any more counsel for me, for the good order of my family?

M. At this time I will add no more but these: Watch against your worldly business, that it destroy not the life and seriousness of holy duties. Alas! in most families this world is all that they have any sense of; not but that your calling must be diligently followed, but in a due subordination to your spiritual and heavenly concerns.

If you have better comfort than you have here, and this world useth you hardly, the more careful should you be to make sure of a better world. Poor men as well as the rich, have souls to save, and a heaven to win, and a hell to escape, and Christ to believe in, and God to love and serve.

Do all that you can to keep up in yourself and family the joy of believing, and a delight in God and his service. And, therefore, let your daily duty have much in it of thanksgiving and praise.

You that are a farmer, and sit by your servants in the long winter nights, get a good book, and read to them while they are with you. Few husbandmen can listen so profitably and so closely as to instructions extracted out of a good book; but herein you must be careful to make a prudent choice, and consult those who are able and willing to direct your judgment.

DAILY PRAYERS

FOR FAMILIES.*

(From the Liturgy of the Church.)

¶ These prayers, and all the other prayers of the Liturgy, may be fitted to the use of *particular persons*, by merely changing the plural into the singular number.

Morning Prayer for a Family.

¶ Read a chapter, or a portion of a chapter, from the Old or New Testament.

O Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons and one God; have mercy upon us, miserable sinners.

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers, neither take thou vengeance of our sins; Spare us, good Lord; spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever.

We sinners do beseech thee, O Lord God, to give us true repentance, to forgive us all our sins, negligencies and ignorances, and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, to amend our lives according to thy holy Word.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

* These prayers are set forth in nearly the same order in *Harrison's Scriptural Exposition of the Church Catechism.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, we beseech thee, mercifully hear our prayers, and spare all those who confess their sins unto thee, that they whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Almighty Lord, and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to direct, and sanctify, and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments, that through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O God, the strength of all them that put their trust in thee; mercifully accept our prayers: and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments, we may please thee, both in will and deed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, the Protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; increase and multiply upon us, thy mercy, that thou being our Ruler and Guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal: Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

LORD, we beseech thee, grant thy people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee, the only God through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the same with thy mighty power, and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Almighty God, we give thee humble thanks, for that thou hast vouchsafed to deliver us, thy servants, from all the perils and dangers of the past night; Grant, we beseech thee, most merciful Father, that we, through thy help, may both faithfully live, and walk according to thy will in this life present, and also may be partakers of everlasting glory in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth; mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

UNTO thy gracious mercy and protection, O God, we commit ourselves, and all our friends and relations; beseeching thee to bless, preserve, and keep us in our going out and coming in, this day and for evermore. *Amen.*

Evening Prayer for a Family.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us—and grant us thy salvation. O God, make clean our hearts within us—and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

O Lord, we acknowledge and bewail our sins and wickedness. For we have done the things that we ought not to have done, and have left

undone the things that we ought to have done; and there is no health in us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful God. For thy Son Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we, whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve; pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.*

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY Father, who hast given thine only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification; grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve thee in pureness of living and truth, through the merits of the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Almighty and most merciful God, of thy bountiful goodness, keep us, we beseech thee, from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that thou wouldest have done, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Lord, our heavenly Father, by whose Almighty power we have been preserved this day; by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of thy only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men, that thou wouldest be pleased

to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians, may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy Fatherly goodness, all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions.

We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments; and to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, that they may serve thee in pureness of living and truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but, above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

ASSIST us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers; and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

GRANT, O Lord, that as we are baptised into the death of thy blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections, we may be buried with him, and that through the grave and gate of death, we may pass to our joyful resurrection, for his merits, who died, and was buried, and rose again for us, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

UNTO thy gracious mercy and protection, O God, we commit ourselves, and all our friends and relations, this night and evermore. O Lord, bless and keep us. Lord, make thy face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. Lord, lift up thy countenance upon us, and give us peace both now and evermore. *Amen.*

† On Sunday add the following immediately before the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Morning.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that as thy only begotten Son was presented in the temple in substance of our flesh; so we may this day be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Almighty God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Pro-

phets, Jesus Christ himself being the head corner-stone; grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

LET thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness; be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Almighty and everlasting God, who didst give to thine Apostles grace truly to believe and to preach thy Word; grant, we beseech thee, unto thy Church, to love that word which they believed, and both to preach and receive the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Sunday Evening.

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh, that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, may it please thee that by the wholesome medicines of the doctrine delivered by those whom thou hast called to be physicians of the soul, all the diseases of our souls may be healed, through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

LET thy merciful ears also, O Lord, be open to the prayers, praises, and thankful acknowledgments of us, thy servants, and of all thy people which have met together this day according to thy will. Accept, good Lord, of our weak endeavours in thy service; and pardon whatever any of us have thought, or spoken, or done amiss this day. But more particularly we implore thy compassion upon our infirmities; and beseech thee, in mercy, not to impute to us the wanderings and coldness of our devotions, nor to deal with us according to our deserts, but according to our needs, and thine own rich mercies in Christ Jesus.

Preserve, and strengthen in us whatever good thoughts and holy desires have been this day raised in our hearts; and help us all the week

following to live in the love and fear of thee our God, and in peace and charity one with another.

Teach us to set thee always before us, and wherever we are, and whatever we are doing, to consider that thou art about our path, and about our bed, and spiest out all our ways.

O possess us with such a strong, and such a lively sense of thee, and of our obligations to thee, and let the thoughts and certain expectation of death and judgment be so constantly, so powerfully present to our souls, that we may, every day, earnestly and heartily serve thee, in all the actions of Christian piety; and be unwearied in well doing, to the end of our lives.

And forasmuch as in all our ways we acknowledge thee, do not thou, O God, ever leave us, or forsake us: But conduct us safely by thy counsel and grace, through all the business and enjoyments, through all the troubles and temptations of this life, to that happy place, where our Lord Jesus lives and reigns with thee in the unity of the blessed Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

O Everlasting God, who hast ordained and constituted the services of angels and men in a wonderful order; mercifully grant, that as thy holy angels always do thee service in heaven; so by thy appointment they may succour and defend us on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

† On Festivals or Fasts use the Collect for the Day

DIALOGUE VII.

THE CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTED HOW TO OBSERVE
THE ORDINANCES OF RELIGION; *in a Dialogue between a Minister and his Parishioner.*

Minister. I THANK you, neighbour, for this visit. How go on matters in your family?

Parishioner. O, Sir, you have set me a great deal of work, which my conscience tells me is good and necessary, and better than any thing else in which I can spend my time. But my heart is backward, and what you have taught me is not so soon learnt as heard, nor so soon done as learnt; and yet I come to you again; and what I desire of you now is, to instruct me about the right observation of the Lord's day; and first to tell me our obligation to observe it.

M. In the first place, Christ gave his Apostles a commission to acquaint the world with his will, and to settle the order of the Church. To this end he promised and gave them the infallible conduct of the Holy Ghost; who was the author of what they did in obedience to their commission. As Christ rose from the dead on the first day of the week, so he often on that day appeared to his disciples, and on that day of the week he sent down the Holy Ghost; so that the