

just, for Jesus Christ's sake, mine only Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer.

BLESSED Lord, our most gracious Father, who dwellest in the light which no man can approach unto, and yet condescendest to hearken to the prayers of all the children of men; let the adorable perfections of thy nature be every where devoutly revered and glorified. Let thy kingdom of truth and righteousness prevail to the full establishment of the gospel of Christ. Let thy holy will be obeyed with sincerity and truth by men on earth, as it is by the blessed angels in heaven. Give us, I beseech thee, day by day those things which are needful for our daily support, in that state of life to which it hath pleased thee to call us. And of thy mercy forgive us our manifold transgressions and offences, in like manner as we are ready from our hearts to forgive every one who hath offended us. Suffer us not to be overcome by temptations, but deliver us from the power of Satan, and the deceitfulness and corruption of sin. For thy kingdom ruleth over all things; thou art the sovereign Disposer of all events; and to thee alone are due all glory, worship, and praise throughout all ages, for ever and for ever. So be it, O gracious Father, not according to our poor and weak understandings, but according to the true meaning of this full and most perfect form of prayer, which thy Son himself hath condescended to teach us. *Amen.*

MORNING PRAYER.

ETERNAL God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, the Giver of all spiritual grace, and the Author of everlasting life; I, thine unworthy servant, bow down before thee this day under a deep sense of thy goodness, and with a full confidence in thy providence. I give thee thanks that thou hast protected me in the hours of darkness; that thou hast brought me safe to the light of another day; and refreshed me during the past night with quiet rest, and undisturbed repose. O thou, who knowest all mine actions, who art acquainted even with my most hidden motives, and who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, I acknowledge before thee mine errors and transgressions, and humbly and earnestly implore thy gracious pardon. Forgive me, O God of mercy, my secret faults, and my presumptuous sins. Remember not against me my disregard of thy presence, thine inspection, and thine authority. Create a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me; and enable me to walk with steadfastness in the way of thy commandments. With the return of this day, may I return with cheerfulness and satisfaction to my station and employments: and not knowing in this changing scene what I may be called to do, or what to suffer, I commit myself to thy protection, and earnestly implore thy favour, thine assistance, and thy blessing. Lay not upon me more than I am able to bear; but under every evil, grant me support, and under every

temptation make a way for mine escape. In all mine actions, may I acknowledge thee, and do thou direct my paths. May I thankfully receive, and temperately enjoy thy mercies, be patient under the chastisement of thy fatherly hand, and mindful of thy gracious providence. In my daily intercourse with mankind, may I obey the laws of equity and kindness. May I be honest and just in my dealings; true and sincere, innocent and useful; courteous and gentle in my conversation; tender of the reputation of my neighbour; candid to the frailties and infirmities of others; kind and compassionate to the needy and afflicted; grateful to my friends and benefactors; generous and forgiving to mine enemies; and charitable to all men. May I be prudent and discreet in ordering mine affairs, and industrious in the business of my station; that so by a patient continuance in well-doing, I may lay up for myself a crown of glory, honour, and immortality. Endue me with fortitude in the cause of truth and virtue; in seeking occasion to instruct the ignorant, to relieve the wretched, and to advance the interests of peace, of truth, and of righteousness. Wean mine affections from the things of this world; and whatever my state and condition may be, give me grace therewith to be content. Let my chief aim and endeavour be to secure the salvation of my soul, and to provide against that time when all earthly comforts shall vanish away. And I humbly beg thy blessing this day upon my honest designs and undertakings. Direct me in all my ways, and prosper the work of my hands. Let thy

good providence watch over me in my going out and my coming in. Enable me in the scenes through which I am this day to pass to walk with thee, and to act as under the notice of thine all-seeing eye. Bless all my friends, relations, and acquaintance; unite us all one to another by mutual love and kindness, and to thyself by the practice of piety and holiness. And because I am not able of myself to please thee, grant me the assistance of thy Holy Spirit, that I may from henceforth live as becometh the gospel of Christ, and at length be received to the joys and glories of thy heavenly kingdom, through the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer, in whose all prevailing name I implore these mercies at thy hands, and give unto thee thy praise and glory in that most perfect form of prayer, which he hath sanctified with his own lips. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

MOST gracious God, who inhabitest eternity, and who dwellest in that light which no mortal eye can approach; I, thy sinful creature, acknowledge that I am not worthy to appear in thy presence, or to lift up mine eyes to that place of purity in which thou dwellest. Yet, though mine unworthiness be great, so infinite is thy goodness as to encourage mine addresses to thee by many gracious promises of favour and acceptance; with humble confidence then I presume to approach the throne of thy grace, beseeching thee

in the name and for the sake of thy beloved Son to be merciful to me in the pardon and forgiveness of all my sins. Give me grace seriously to consider the great work which I have to do, and the uncertainty of the time which thou hast given me to perform it in, that I may not be so foolish as to consume my days in vanity and folly, in the gratification of my corrupt inclinations, and the indulgence of my vicious appetites. Thou hast created me that I might partake of the riches of thy goodness; I bless thee, therefore, for the portion of health and ease; for the food and raiment; for the society and affection of my relatives and friends; for the success which hath attended my lawful undertakings; for the advances which I have been enabled to make in knowledge, wisdom, and virtue; and for the glorious hope that I enjoy, as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Enable me to acknowledge these thy mercies in spirit and in truth; to rejoice in all the communications of thine exuberant goodness, and to yield a cheerful and unreserved obedience to all thy commands. May my friends and relations be the friends of thee; may they be the objects of thy favour here, and of thine acceptance hereafter. Reform whatever thou seest amiss in the temper and disposition of my soul; purge my heart from envy, hatred, and malice; and may I always retire to rest in peace and charity, and with a conscience void of offence both towards thee and towards man. Give me an honest and an upright heart; restrain me from all immoderate desires of the things of this world; from all pride and co-

vetousness; and from all evil-speaking, lying, and slandering. Be thou pleased so to conduct me through all the business and employment, through all the calamities and troubles of this life, that I may attain that happiness which thou hast been graciously pleased to promise to them that obey thee. Raise mine affections more and more to those things that are above, and teach me to moderate my regard to all inferior and sensible objects. Enable me in every situation and circumstance of life, to be not only patient and resigned, cheerful and thankful, well-knowing that all things work together for my good; but also to rise superior to every temptation, to conquer every difficulty, to practise every duty, and to be steadfast, immoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. May I lie down upon my bed this night in peace with God, with mine own conscience, and with all mankind. May my sleep be sweet and refreshing under the care and protection of thy providence; for thou art about my bed, and thy tender mercy is over all thy works. As thou hast brought me to the close of this day in safety, so I commit myself to thy care and protection during the slumbers of the night. Watch over me in my defenceless moments, and after quiet and refreshing sleep raise me up in the morning fitted for the duties and events of another day, in health and comfort, with a heart full of love and gratitude to thee my God, and properly and cheerfully disposed to thy service and my duty. And gracious God, when this succession of days and nights shall have an end, receive me into that

glorious state, where I may serve thee without intermission through a happy and everlasting day. Hear and accept me, then through the merits and intercession of thy Son Jesus Christ, in whose comprehensive prayer I sum up all my wants. *Amen.*

THE END.

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