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PRAYERS FOR CHILDREN,

WITH

SUITABLE HYMNS ANNEXED.

BY THE REV. JOHN WESLEY, A. M.,

Sometime Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford.

TENTH EDITION.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY J. MASON, 14, CITY-ROAD,

AND SOLD AT 66, PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1828.

Presented by
C. A. Buckmaster Esq.
21 Jan 1925.

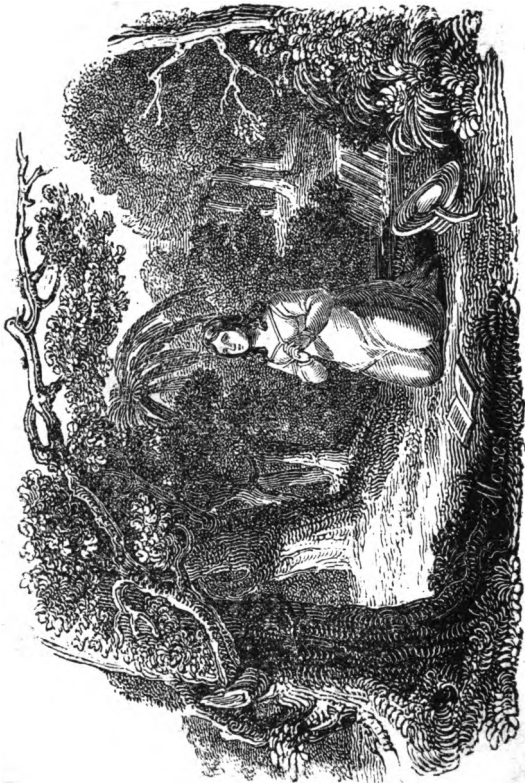


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PREFACE.

MY DEAR CHILD,

A LOVER of your soul has here drawn up a few Prayers, in order to assist you in that great duty. Be sure that you do not omit, at least morning and evening, to present yourself upon your knees before God. You have mercies to pray for, and blessings to praise God for. But take care that you do not mock God, drawing near with your lips, while your heart is far from him. God sees you, and knows your thoughts; therefore see that you not only speak with your lips, but pray with your heart. And that you may not ask in vain, see that you forsake sin, and make it your endeavour to do what God has shown you ought: because God says, "The prayers of the wicked are an abomination unto the Lord." Ask then of God for the blessings you want, in the name, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, and God will hear and answer you, and do more for you than you can either ask or think.

JOHN WESLEY.

PRAYERS FOR CHILDREN.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Maker of all mankind, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, who makest the outgoings of the morning and the evening to rejoice, suffer me now to approach thy Divine Majesty with all reverence and godly fear. I desire to adore thy sacred name, who hast in thy goodness brought me in safety to behold the beginning of a new day and another Sabbath. I bless thee, who hast in love to my soul, and for the glory of thy name, set apart this day for holy uses, to engage me in thy service, wherein consists my honour and happiness. This is thy day: O Lord, enable me to rejoice and be glad in it. May I ever remember to keep it holy, not doing my own works, nor finding my own pleasure, nor speaking my own words: but so delight in thee, that thou mayest give me my heart's desire. Bless to me thy word, O my heavenly Father, and all the means of grace, that I may not use them in vain or to my own hurt, but for the instructing my mind, reforming my life, and the saving my soul. Save me from all hardness of heart and contempt of thy word; increase my love to it, and enable me to hear it meekly,

and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth fruit unto good living. Open my understanding to receive thy truth in the love thereof. Set it so powerfully upon my heart, and root it so deep in my soul, that the fruits thereof may be seen in my life, to thy glory and praise. May I always so hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest thy word, that it may be a savour of life to my soul. O let me not offer vain oblations unto the Lord, drawing nigh with my lips, while my heart is far from thee. But do thou enable me to worship thee with holy worship, with joy and delight, with profit and pleasure. Fill me with a comfortable sense of thy presence, that I may serve thee with reverence and godly fear, to the comfort of my soul and the glory of thy name. O Lord God, do thou clothe thy priests with righteousness, and let thy saints rejoice and sing. Break the bread of life to all our souls, that we may eat and live for ever. O Lord, hear my prayers, and let my cry come unto thee. Do more and better for me than I can either desire or deserve, for the sake of my blessed Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all praise and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

MERCIFUL GOD, permit me to pay thee, now, my evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, for all the blessings and favours to my body and soul, so freely bestowed, and so long continued unto me. Thou hast dealt graciously with me, O Lord God, and hast been exceedingly good and kind to me beyond all that I had reason to expect, or am able to express. I bless thee, O Lord, for every help which I enjoy to the promoting my present and eternal good. I desire to ascribe all praise and glory to thee, to whom alone it is due. O Lord, I bless thee that thy house is open to me, the bread of life offered me, the word of salvation preached, and thy Spirit striving with me. O suffer me not to receive thy grace in vain, nor let thy word be lost upon me. Do thou apply it to my heart, and fix it in my memory, that it may prove a blessing to my soul. In mercy, O Lord, pass by all things which in thy pure and holy eyes have been amiss this day past; pardon my neglects, and the guilt of my misdoings. And as I have heard how to walk and to please thee, O my God, help me to walk more worthy of the Lord unto all well-pleasing, that I may be built up in thy true fear and love, and in the right knowledge and faith of our Lord Jesus Christ. Be thou pleased to second every word of instruction that I have received, with the power of thy grace and Holy Spirit; and

above all, O blessed God, do thou give me a heart filled with thy love, and lifted up in thy praise, and devoted to thy honour and glory all the days of my life. Take me, O Lord God, my Saviour, into thy gracious care and protection. Preserve me from all dangers in the night season. Let me lay down and sleep in thy arms; and when the trumpet shall sound, and at last call me from the sleep of death, let me be caught up into the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so for ever be with the Lord. All these mercies, O my God, I most humbly ask, for the alone sake of Jesus Christ my Redeemer. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

MONDAY MORNING.

O LORD GOD Almighty, Father of angels and men, I praise and bless thy holy name for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to me and all mankind. I bless thee for my creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thy great love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ. I bless thee for preserving me in the night past, and bringing me safe to the beginning of a new day. Defend me in the same with thy mighty power, and grant that this day I fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger: but let all my doings be so ordered by thy governance, that I may do always that which is righteous in thy sight, through Jesus Christ my Redeemer. Grant me such grace, that I may be able to

withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with a pure heart and mind to follow the steps of my gracious Redeemer. Keep me, I beseech thee, O Lord, from all things hurtful to my soul or body, and grant me thy pardon and peace, that, being cleansed from all my sins, I may serve thee with a quiet mind, bring forth plenteously the fruit of good works, and continue in the same unto my life's end, through Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

MONDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the gracious Preserver of all mankind, I desire now to offer unto thee my praise and thanksgivings, for all the blessings thou hast this day bestowed upon me. I confess, O my God, that I am unworthy of the least of all thy mercies; for I have gone astray like a lost sheep. I have followed too much the devices and desires of my own heart. I have offended against thy holy laws. I have left undone those things which I ought to have done, and have done those things which I ought not to have done; and there is no health in me. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon me, a miserable offender. Spare me, O Lord, who now confess my faults unto thee. Enable me to bewail my manifold sins and offences, which I have from time to time most grievously committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty. Have mercy upon me, have mercy upon me, most merciful Father; for my Saviour

Jesus Christ's sake, forgive me all that is past, and grant me thy grace, that I may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ my Lord and Saviour. Take me under thy gracious care and keeping this night; save and defend me from all dangers. Grant unto my body rest in my bed; and unto my soul rest in thyself; and be thou my God and my guide, my hope and my help, my joy and my comfort, now and for evermore, through Jesus Christ my Redeemer. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

TUESDAY MORNING.

O THOU Father of all mercies, and God of all goodness, I praise and bless thy name for thy mercies and favours unto me in the night past, and for bringing me safe to behold the light of a new day. Send down thy heavenly grace into my soul, that I may be enabled to worship thee, and serve thee as I ought to do. Enable me to believe in thee, to fear thee, and to love thee with all my heart, and mind, and soul, and strength; that I may honour thy holy name and word, and serve thee truly, this and all the days of my life. Give me thy grace, that I may love all mankind as myself, and do unto all as I would they should do unto me. Enable me to love and honour my parents, obey my superiors, and submit to all my teachers. Suffer me not to

hurt any body by word or deed. Make me just and honest in all my dealings. Let me not bear any malice or hatred in my heart. Keep my hands from picking and stealing, my tongue from evil speaking, lying, and slandering: keep my body in temperance, soberness, and chastity; that I may not covet any person's goods, but learn and labour to get my own living, and to do my duty in the state of life wherein it shall please thee to place me. Direct me so to pass through things temporal, that I may not finally lose the things which are eternal, but at last be received into thy presence, where is fulness of joy, and be seated at thy right hand, where are pleasures for evermore, through Jesus Christ my Saviour. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

TUESDAY EVENING.

O LORD GOD, the gracious Giver of all good things, I praise and adore thee for thy goodness, which has been so plentiful towards me an unworthy child of man. Thou hast, in thy mercy, not only preserved me this day from all dangers, but bestowed upon me all things needful, for which I desire entirely to praise thy fatherly goodness, and with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, to laud and magnify thy holy name. Bless then the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me praise his holy name; for the Lord is gracious, and his mercy is everlasting towards them that fear him, And now,

Lord, I must humbly implore thy fatherly goodness to forgive me whatever has this day in my heart or life offended the eyes of thy glory. O Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, receive my prayer. Prevent me, O Lord, in all my doings, for the time to come, and further me with thy continual help, that in all my thoughts, words, and works, I may continually glorify thy holy name. Grant me thy grace, that I may follow thy blessed saints in all righteousness and holy living, that I may at last come to be a partaker with them of glory everlasting. Do thou enable me, gracious Lord, to adorn thy Gospel in all holy conversation, and to do whatever I do to the glory of thy name. Cleanse the thoughts of my heart, by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that I may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name. Let thy fatherly hand be ever over me, and thy Holy Spirit be ever with me; and do thou so lead me in the knowledge and obedience of thy word, that in the end I may obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ my Lord. And now, O Lord, as the night is come upon me, and as I am ready to betake myself to rest, I desire to commit myself to thy protection, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, but hast still a watchful eye over me: O watch over me for good, that none of the evils I deserve may fall upon me. Preserve me from all terrors and dangers in the night. Remove my sin out of thy sight, and show me the light of thy countenance,

and refresh me with the sense of thy favour, through Jesus Christ my Redeemer : to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and praise for ever and ever. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O LORD GOD Almighty, Fountain of all goodness, and Father of all mercies, I desire again to bow my knee before thy holy Majesty, humbly beseeching thee to accept my praise and thanksgivings, for thy mercies to me in the night season. I laid me down and slept, and rose up again in safety ; for it was thou only, O Lord, that sustainedst me. And now, O my soul, return unto thy rest. Look upon me, O Lord, in thy rich mercy, and for thy dear Son's sake be gracious unto my soul. Lighten my darkness, I beseech thee, O Lord, and let the Day-Spring from on high visit me. Enable me to cast away all the works of darkness, and to put upon me the armour of light, that I may be able to renounce the world, the flesh, and the Devil ; to keep thy holy will and commandments, and to walk in the same all the days of my life. Give me, O Lord, wisdom to know the things that belong to my peace, before I go hence and am no more seen. Graft in my heart the love of thy name, increase in me true religion, and nourish me with all goodness. Give me the spirit to think and do always such things as be

rightful. Teach me to ask and seek only such things as shall please thee and profit my soul. Give me such a measure of thy grace, that I may run the way of thy commandments, obtain thy gracious promises, and be made a partaker of thy heavenly treasures. Pour down upon me the abundance of thy mercy. Give me more than I can either desire or deserve. O give me the increase of faith, hope, and love; and keep me ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead me to all things useful. Let thy grace always prevent and follow me, that I may be continually given to all good works, and may always glorify my Father which is in heaven. These and every other blessing for me, and for thy whole church, I humbly beg in the name, and for the sake of the merits of Jesus Christ my Redeemer; to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, &c.—*Our Father, &c.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, I most humbly beseech thee now to accept my sincere praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings and mercies that I have enjoyed this day. It is thou, O Lord, alone, who hast preserved me from dangers. And from thy gracious bounty have I received all things needful to promote my present and eternal happiness. Not unto me, O Lord, not unto me, but unto thy name be the praise. O Lord, I am unworthy, through my manifold sins, to offer thee any

sacrifice; yet as thy property is to have mercy and to forgive, I beseech thee to accept this my bounden duty; not dealing with me according to my deserving, but after thy mercy and the merits of thy dear Son Jesus Christ. I confess unto thee, O my God, that I am tied and bound with the chain of my sins: yet, let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose me. I have no power of myself to help myself: O do thou keep me by thy grace, both outwardly in my body, and inwardly in my soul, that I may be enabled to present both body and soul a holy and pleasing sacrifice unto thee, through my Redeemer Jesus Christ. Grant me, O my God, grace, that I may love what thou hast commanded, and earnestly desire what thou hast promised. Enable me, amidst the many changes of this world, to fix my heart constantly upon things above. May I both in heart and mind constantly thither ascend, whither my Saviour Jesus Christ is gone before, to prepare a place for me. Bring me up, O Lord, in thy fear and love. Keep me under the protection of thy good Providence. Hide me under the shadow of thy wings; keep me from the evils of this world, and land me safe at last on that blissful shore, where all is quietness and assurance for ever.

Into thy hands, O my God, I this night commend my soul and body. Give thy angels charge over me, and grant me such rest and sleep as may fit me for the duties of the following day. And, O my God, do thou prepare me for my last sleep in death, my

departure out of this mortal state; that before I go hence I may finish the work thou hast given me to do, and at last finish my course with joy, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

THURSDAY MORNING.

O thou eternal Fountain of all wisdom, whom I cannot see or know, but by the means of thy own light, vouchsafe to manifest thyself to my soul, and teach me to know aright, thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. O blessed Sun of Righteousness, arise upon me with healing in thy wings, to scatter all the clouds of folly and ignorance that overspread my soul. Open my eyes to see the wondrous things thy love has wrought. Suffer me not to remain in darkness concerning any thing that is needful for me to know, in order to my present peace, and my eternal glory. O Lord, incline mine ears to wisdom, and my heart to understanding, that I may follow on to know the Lord, and increase in the knowledge and love of God. Give me, O Lord, that highest learning, to know thee; and that best wisdom, to know myself. Command a blessing on my studies and endeavours, and bless me, and help me, Lord, in my learning all such things as shall stand me in stead, and do me good. Let my soul and body, and all their powers, be under thy conduct, and employed to thy glory.

Show me thy ways, O Lord, and lead me into truth; and whatever I am ignorant of, unto me let it be given to know the mysteries of thy kingdom; and let me count all things but dung and dross for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep me this day from all sin. Bless my going out and coming in, now and for evermore. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

THURSDAY EVENING.

O MY heavenly Father, who tookest me out of my mother's womb, who wast my hope, when I hanged yet upon my mother's breast; I have been preserved by thee ever since I was born: O go not from me in this my youth, but send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling-place. Teach me thy way, O Lord, and enable me to walk in thy truth. O knit my heart unto thee, that I may fear thy name; and give me understanding in the way of godliness. Lord, I am young, and cannot discern between good and evil: O let me not go out of the way of thy commandments. Learn me true understanding and knowledge. Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth thee: for thou art my God. Let thy loving Spirit lead me forth into all the paths of righteousness. Let my study day and night be in thy word, that I may become wise unto salvation. Make thy word a

light unto my feet, and a lamp to my path; guide me here with thy counsel, and after that receive me into glory. Withdraw not thou thy mercy from me, O my God; but let thy lovingkindness and thy truth always preserve me. Give thy blessing to me; and with thy favourable kindness defend me, as with a shield. Show me the path of life, and enable me to walk therein, till I come into thy presence, where is fulness of joy, and to thy right hand, where are pleasures for evermore. As thou hast been pleased to preserve me this day, and hast bestowed upon me all things needful, I desire to bless thy name for the same. Take care of me this night, O Lord, and visit me with thy mercies. Preserve me, O Lord, from every thing hurtful, and let thy merciful arms for ever surround me, through Jesus Christ my Saviour. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

FRIDAY MORNING.

O LORD my God, I am taught by thy word, that I am by nature born in sin, and a child of wrath; and that except I am born again, I cannot see the kingdom of God. O Lord, do thou teach me the meaning of the new birth, that I, a child of wrath, may become a child of grace. Lord, take away the veil from my heart, that I may know my sinful nature. Make the remembrance of my sins grievous unto me, and the burden of them intolerable. Lead me then

to the fountain opened for sin and uncleanness, that I may there wash and be cleansed. Suffer me not to rest till I find redemption in thy blood, even the forgiveness of all my sins. It has pleased thee, O Lord, to hide these things from the wise and prudent, and to reveal them unto babes. Reveal then, O Lord, thy love in my soul. Let me taste and see how good and gracious thou art. Suffer a child to come unto thee, and forbid me not. I am unworthy; but receive me as thou didst the little children of old into thy gracious arms, and adopt me thine for ever. Shed abroad in my heart thy love, and fill me with all peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. Let every thought, word, and deed, be henceforth to the glory of thy great name, through Jesus Christ; and at last grant me an abundant entrance into thy everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ my Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Be thou with me, O Lord, this day, to bless and keep, guide, and govern me; and let me be thine, and only thine, for ever. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

FRIDAY EVENING.

O THOU ever blessed God, the author and giver of life, I desire with all humility to draw near unto thy gracious Majesty, to offer up unto thee my evening sacrifice of prayer and praise. Thou alone, O God, art worthy to be praised, and to be had in everlasting remembrance. Glory be to thee, O most adorable

Lord God. Glory be to thy name for all thy mercies and goodness bestowed on me thy most unworthy servant, in the day that is now past. Give me a due sense of all thy mercies, that my heart may be unfeignedly thankful; and grant me thy grace that I may show forth thy praise not only with my lips but in my life. Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness. According to the multitude of thy mercies, do away mine offences. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from all my sins. Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds. Create in me a clean heart, O my God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, neither withdraw thy lovingkindness from me. Spare me, O Lord, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with me for ever. For the glory of thy name, turn from me those evils that I have most righteously deserved, and enable me to walk before thee henceforth in holiness and righteousness, to thy praise and glory. Let thy mercy and goodness follow me all the days of my life, and be thou my guide unto death, and my portion for ever. Give me thy grace, that I may duly consider my latter end and the fewness of my days, that I may seriously apply my heart unto wisdom, and work out my salvation with fear and trembling, before the night of death cometh upon me, wherein no man can work. Enable me so to live, that I may not only be looking but also longing for my Saviour's appearing:

that when He shall come, I may also appear with him in glory. And now, O Lord my God, I beseech thee take me under thy protection this night, and preserve me from all evil. I will lay me down in peace and take my rest; for it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety. In thee have I trusted, let me never be confounded. These and all other mercies I humbly beg in the name of my Mediator Jesus Christ. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

SATURDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, I bless thee, that of thy infinite goodness, thou hast preserved me this night past, and brought me in safety to this morning. Withdraw not, I humbly beseech thee, thy protection from me, but take me under the care of thy providence this day. Watch over me with the eyes of thy mercy, direct my soul and body according to the rule of thy will, that I may pass this and all my days to thy glory. O Lord, I am but a child, and know not how to go out or come in; and I am in the midst of a sinful world. Give therefore unto thy servant an understanding heart, that I may know and choose the good, and abhor and shun that which is evil. According to thy mercy, think upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness. Make me to remember thee in the days of my youth. O learn me

true wisdom, and let the law of thy mouth be dearer to me than thousands of gold and silver, and let my whole delight be therein. O let me be devoted to thee from my childhood. Keep out of my heart all love of the world, of riches, or any other created thing, and fill it with the love of God. Thou knowest how many and powerful are the enemies of my soul, that seek to destroy it, the flesh and the devil. O Lord, help; O Lord, save; O Lord, deliver me from them. Give me grace to renounce them all, and to keep thy holy will and commandments all the days of my life. Show me and make me what I must be before. I can inherit thy kingdom. Teach me the truth as it is in Jesus. Save me from my own will, and let thine be done in me and by me. O make me thy child by adoption and grace. Renew me daily with thy Holy Spirit, and guide me in all my ways till thou hast perfected me for thy heavenly kingdom. Make me dutiful to my parents, affectionate to my relations, obedient to my superiors, and loving towards all mankind. And grant that as I grow in stature, I may grow in wisdom and in thy favour, till thou shalt take me to thine everlasting kingdom, there to dwell with thee for ever and ever, through Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

SATURDAY EVENING.

I DESIRE to offer unto thee, O Lord, my evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for all thy

mercies bestowed upon me. I bless thee for my creation, preservation, and, above all, for my redemption by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I bless thee for bringing me safely to the conclusion of this day; and humbly implore the pardon of all the sins I have been guilty of, whether in thought, word, or deed. Have mercy upon me, O God, and do thou free me from all the sins I have committed, and deliver me from the punishment I have deserved. O thou blessed Guide of my youth, give me thy grace to seek after thee in my early years, that thou mayest not be unmindful of me in the time of age. Keep me from the evil of the world, and carry me safe through it to thy kingdom. Take care of me, and provide for me, and dispose of me in the world, as shall be most for thy glory and my good. Leave me not to myself, in the hands of my own counsel, but let me be taught of God. Take thou, O Lord, the gracious charge, and guidance, and government of me, and fix in my heart thy fear and love, and direct all my ways to please not myself but thee. O redeem me from the power of my sins by thy grace, and from the punishment of them by thy blood; and by both bring me to thy glory. I desire, O my God, to give up myself wholly to thee. I would be thine, and only thine, for ever. O my God, my Saviour, turn not away thy face from a poor child that seeks thee. Give me to know that I am nothing, and can do nothing of myself, and that if ever I am thine, I must be wholly indebted to thee

for it. Let me be entirely devoted unto thee, and do thou make me obedient and faithful unto the end. Make me to remember thee in my bed, and think upon thee when I am waking. Thou hast preserved me from the dangers of the day past, thou hast been my support ever since I was born. Under the shadow of thy wings let me pass this night in comfort and peace. Keep me both in body and soul, and give me such rest as my body has need of. And grant, O Lord, that when I lay down my body in the grave, my soul may rise to life immortal, through the merits and intercession of thy dear Son, my Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.—*Our Father, &c.*

A Prayer for Relations, Friends, &c., to be used after Morning and Evening Prayer.

VOUCHSAFE, O Lord, to bless my father and mother, and all my relations, with the fear of thy name. Bless them in their souls and bodies; perfect them in every good word and work, and be thou their guide unto death. Bless my friends, forgive my enemies; and grant unto all mankind the knowledge and love of thee. Have mercy upon all who are afflicted in mind, body, or estate. Give them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of

all their afflictions: And receive them and me at last into thy blessed kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Grace before Meat.

O LORD, I beseech thee, give thy blessing with what thy mercy has here provided me with, that whether I eat or drink, or whatsoever I do, I may do all to thy glory and praise, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

After Meals.

O LORD, my God, I bless thy holy name for this mercy, which I have now received from thy bounty and goodness. Feed now my soul with thy grace, that I may make it my meat and drink to do thy gracious will, through Jesus Christ my Saviour. Amen.

HYMNS FOR CHILDREN.

HYMN I.

A THOUGHT ON JUDGMENT.

- 1 AND must I be to judgment brought,
And answer in that day
For every vain or idle thought,
And every word I say ?
- 2 Yes, every secret of my heart
Shall shortly be made known,
And I receive my just desert
For all that I have done.
- 3 How careful then ought I to live !
With what religious fear ;
Who such a strict account must give
Of my behaviour here !
- 4 Thou awful Judge of quick and dead,
The watchful power bestow,
So shall I to my ways take heed,
To all I speak or do.
- 5 If now Thou standest at the door,
O let me feel Thee near,
And make my peace with God, before
I at thy bar appear.

- 6 My peace thou hast already made,
 While hanging on the tree;
 My sins He on thy body laid,
 And punish'd them in Thee.
- 7 Ah, might I, Lord, the virtue prove
 Of thine atoning blood;
 And know, Thou ever liv'st above
 My advocate with God!
- 8 Receive the answer of thy prayer,
 The sense of sin forgiven;
 And follow Thee with loving care,
 And go in peace to heaven.

HYMN II.

- 1 WHEN, dear Lord, ah, tell us when
 Shall we be in knowledge men;
 Men in strength and constancy,
 Men of God, confirm'd in thee?
- 2 Childish now, alas, we are,
 Void of faith and watchful care;
 After all our teachers' pains,
 Little good in us remains.
- 3 O how fickle is our mind,
 More inconstant than the wind:
 Suddenly our goodness fails,
 Levity again prevails.

- 4 Strong and fervent for an hour,
Then we cast away our power ;
Lose insensibly our zeal,
Care for neither heaven nor hell.
- 5 Jesus, Lord, we cry to Thee,
Help our souls' infirmity ;
Great unchangeable I AM,
Make us evermore the same.
- 6 Plant in us thy constant mind,
To thy cross our spirit bind ;
That we may no longer rove,
Ground and 'stablish us in love.
- 7 Love that makes us creatures new,
Only love can keep us true :
Perfect love can cast out sin,
Perfect love is God within.

HYMN III.

AGAINST IDLENESS.

- 1 IDLE boys and men are found
Standing on the devil's ground ;
He will find them work to do,
He will pay their wages too.
- 2 Are they not of wisdom void,
Those that saunter unemploy'd ;
Young or old, who fondly play
Their important time away ?

- 3 What a bold and foolish lie,
When we hear a trifier cry,
" I no other business have !"
Has he not a soul to save ?
- 4 Has he from his Lord above
No one talent to improve ?
Let him go and muse on this ;
Sloth is the worst wickedness.
- 5 Sloth is the accursed root,
Whence ten thousand evils shoot ;
Every vice, and every sin,
Doth with idleness begin.
- 6 We by idleness expose
Our own souls to endless woes ;
We, whenever loitering thus,
Tempt the devil to tempt us.
- 7 But suffice the season past
That our time away we cast,
Thoughtless and insensible,
Dancing on the brink of hell.
- 8 Let us now to Jesus turn ;
For our mis-spent moments mourn ;
Let us, in his Spirit's power,
Promise to stand still no more.

- 9 Jesus, help ! to Thee we pray ;
 Take the cursed root away ;
 Idleness far off remove ;
 Let us Thee and labour love :
- 10 All our time and vigour give,
 Serve our Maker while we live ;
 Use for God the talents given ;
 Work on earth, and rest in heaven.

HYMN IV.

OF HEAVEN.

- 1 WHERE shall true believers go,
 When from the flesh they fly ?
 Glorious joys ordain'd to know,
 They mount above the sky,
 To that bright celestial place ;
 There they shall in raptures live,
 More than tongue can e'er express,
 Or heart can e'er conceive.
- 2 When they once are entered there,
 Their mourning days are o'er ;
 Pain, and sin, and want, and care,
 And sighing, are no more :
 Subject then to no decay,
 Heavenly bodies they put on,
 Swifter than the lightning's ray,
 And brighter than the sun.

- 3 But their greatest happiness,
 Their highest joy, shall be
 God their Saviour to possess,
 To know, and love, and see :
 With that beatific sight
 Glorious ecstasy is given ;
 This is their supreme delight,
 And makes a heaven of heaven.
- 4 Him beholding face to face,
 To Him they glory give,
 Bless his name, and sing his praise,
 As long as God shall live :
 While eternal ages roll,
 Thus employ'd in heaven they are :
 Lord, receive my happy soul
 With all thy servants there !

HYMN V.

- 1 LAMB of God, I fain would be
 A meek follower of Thee ;
 Gentle, tractable, and mild,
 Loving as a little child !
- 2 Simple, ignorant of ill,
 Guided by another's will ;
 Trusting him for heavenly food,
 Casting all my care on God.

- 3 Let me in thy footsteps tread,
Be to all the creatures dead,
Dead to pleasure, wealth and praise,
Poor and humble all my days.
- 4 Prepossess my tender mind,
Let me cast the world behind ;
All its pomps and pleasures vain,
Help me, Saviour, to disdain.
- 5 Thou my better portion art,
Earth shall never share my heart ;
I on all its goods look down,
I expect a starry crown.
- 6 I aspire to things above ;
Lord, I give Thee all my love :
I will nothing know beside
Jesus, and him crucified.
- 7 Let the potsherds of the earth
Boast their virtue, beauty, birth ;
A poor, guilty worm I am,
Ransom'd by the bleeding Lamb.

HYMN VI.

- I JESU, this be all my boast,
Thou hast sav'd a sinner lost ;
Thou hast spilt thy precious blood,
Me to make a child of God.

- 2 What a glorious title this,
(Title to eternal bliss !)
Thou for me thy life hast given,
Me to make an heir of heaven.
- 3 O enlarge my scanty thought
To conceive what Thou hast wrought ;
Raise my grovelling spirit up
To my heavenly calling's hope.
- 4 Greaten my contracted mind,
Saviour Thou of all mankind ;
What in man thy grace could move ?
O the riches of thy love !
- 5 Let thy love possess me whole,
Let it take up all my soul !
True magnificence impart ;
Purify, and fill my heart.
- 6 I despise all earthly things,
Offspring of the King of kings ;
God I for my Father claim,
Jesus is my Brother's name,
- 7 Heaven is mine inheritance,
I shall soon remove from hence ;
As the stars in glory shine ;
Christ, and God, and all, is mine,

HYMN VII.

- 1 **LOVER** of little children, Thee,
O Jesus, we adore!
Our kind and loving Saviour be,
Both now and evermore.
- 2 O take us up into thine arms,
And we are truly blest!
Thy new-born babes are safe from harms,
When lying on thy breast.
- 3 There let us ever, ever sleep,
Strangers to guilt and care;
Free from the world of evil keep
Our tender spirits there.
- 4 Still as we grow in years, in grace
And wisdom let us grow;
But never leave thy dear embrace,
But never evil know.
- 5 Strong let us in thy grace abide,
But ignorant of ill!
In malice, subtlety, and pride,
Let us be children still.
- 6 And while the' angelic army sings,
With them we feebly join
To extol the glorious King of kings,
The Majesty Divine!



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