

## ***Give Us Our Daily Bread***

***“Give us today our daily bread.” (Matthew 6:11)***

The disciples of Jesus asked Him, ***“Lord, teach us how to pray.”*** And these words pleased the Lord Jesus because He was assured that His disciples now really wanted to communicate with God the Father, the Creator of heaven and earth, through prayer. And in response to their desire, He said, ***“This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, you will be done on earth as it is heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:9-13)***

Part of the prayer is, ***“Give us today our daily bread.”*** And this is our subject of this week’s issue. Prayer is the expression of our faith in God. In the beginning, when God created Adam and Eve, He put them in the Garden of Eden and God was with them. He was walking and talking to them and He bestowed on them His glory and honor. The Lord God put upon their hands every blessing and resources for living, but they chose to follow the deceiving advice of the devil and they disobeyed God. They were in continuous fellowship with God until they broke God’s instruction. As a consequence of their sinful act, their close personal relationship and fellowship with God was broken and they departed from God’s presence.

After the event that Adam and Eve disobeyed God we are put under a curse because we are the seed of Adam. ***“To Adam God said, “because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘you must not eat of it,’ curse is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.” (Genesis 3:17-19)***

We need bread or food to sustain our physical body, but because of sin it became so hard to toil or to work to get our daily provision. But God’s love to man continued in spite of man’s sin and disobedience. God came down from heaven, He became a man, Jesus Christ, to save the people from sin. So again people can walk with God; He walked with those who fear Him and follow His ways through Jesus Christ. Jesus came to bring back man to God, to have a real and personal relationship to Him as it was before in the Garden of Eden. Jesus died on the cross to pay the price of disobedience of man. He died and was raised from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to everyone who believes in Him. Through faith in Jesus we become children of God and we can cry to Him, “Abba” or “Father God”. And to Him we ask, ***“Give us today our daily bread.”***

The Lord God is our Provider who can meet all our needs. No person can provide for himself his needs unless God provides for him. Many times we forget to ask from God because we rely on our own strength and skills to seek food and other daily needs. But the model of prayer that the Lord Jesus mentioned teaches us to rely on God for our daily provision because apart from Him we can do nothing.

Many in the world today they don’t have food to eat and clean water to drink. We may say that the world is full of food resources but there are many people around who are not receiving the right food. There are famines, droughts, diseases, and joblessness that many people cannot work or earn enough for themselves. But the main reason is that they do not ask the Lord God to provide for their needs. They cannot cry “Father God” because they are still like Adam living a disobedient life and away from God. They continue to do sin and are living under a curse.

When the people of God were in the desert God provided for them the manna – the bread from heaven: ***“Then the Lord said to Moses, “I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days.” (Exodus 16:4-5)***

***“The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little. And when they measured it by the omer, the one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little. Everyone had gathered just as much as they needed.” (Exodus 16:17-18)*** Once we rely on the Lord our God, our daily needs from food, drink, shelter and everything will be satisfied. Our Father in heaven is our best insurance and guarantor to meet all our daily need. Moreover, God teaches us to be content and to be satisfied with whatever He gives us. Many of us miss the point in life that is why at the end of the day we feel so tired because we work so hard to gather much. But, ***‘he who gathered much did not have too much, and he gathered little did not have too little.’***

Our God is the same yesterday, today, tomorrow, and forever. If He provides for us today, will He not provide for us tomorrow? The anointed writer of the Proverbs says: ***“Two things I ask of you, Lord; do not refuse me before I die: Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown You and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’ or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.” (Proverbs 30:7-8)***

***My dear and beloved:*** Are you that person who is always busy with your own work or business and you even say that you don’t have time for God? Have you forgotten that God is your Provider? God has given you six days to work so that in the seventh day of the week you will revere Him and worship Him. If you keep yourself always busy with your own work and neglect what God asks of you, simply you will no gain more; you are wasting your time and effort because God the Father in heaven gives us our daily bread.

***My Prayer:*** ***“Heavenly Father, I come before You in the name of Jesus who died for me on the cross to give me abundant and eternal life. Lord, forgive me my sins. Today I surrender everything into your hand. Give me my daily bread, satisfy my needs and increase my faith in You, O God. You alone can meet all my needs according to your glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Teach me, Lord, to be contented of what I have and for everything You give me. I give You all my thanks and praises. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.”***