



# PRAYER

## For This Day

Each "Prayer For This Day" will have a new picture of God's creation. By observing the majestic and intricate parts of God's creation, we can be reminded of His power in every aspect of our lives.

Monday, March 30, 2020

This prayer, Psalm 90 - the only one attributed to Moses - begins and ends with God, with our troubles in between.

### **A Prayer of Moses, the man of God. The Message**

God, it seems you've been our home forever;  
long before the mountains were born,  
Long before you brought earth itself to birth,  
from "once upon a time" to "kingdom come"—you are God.

So don't return us to mud, saying,  
"Back to where you came from!"  
Patience! You've got all the time in the world—whether  
a thousand years or a day, it's all the same to you.  
Are we no more to you than a wispy dream,  
no more than a blade of grass  
That springs up gloriously with the rising sun  
and is cut down without a second thought?  
Your anger is far and away too much for us;  
we're at the end of our rope.  
You keep track of all our sins; every misdeed  
since we were children is entered in your books.  
All we can remember is that frown on your face.  
Is that all we're ever going to get?  
We live for seventy years or so  
(with luck we might make it to eighty),  
And what do we have to show for it? Trouble.  
Toil and trouble and a marker in the graveyard.  
Who can make sense of such rage,  
such anger against the very ones who fear you?

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Oh! Teach us to live well!  
Teach us to live wisely and well!  
Come back, God—how long do we have to wait?—  
and treat your servants with kindness for a change.  
Surprise us with love at daybreak;  
then we'll skip and dance all the day long.  
Make up for the bad times with some good times;  
we've seen enough evil to last a lifetime.  
Let your servants see what you're best at—  
the ways you rule and bless your children.  
And let the loveliness of our Lord, our God, rest on us,  
confirming the work that we do.  
Oh, yes. Affirm the work that we do!

### **A Prayer of Moses, the man of God. English Standard Version**

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.  
Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"  
For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past,  
or as a watch in the night.  
You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning;  
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.  
For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.  
You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.  
For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.  
The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty;  
yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.  
Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.  
Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants!  
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.  
Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,  
and for as many years as we have seen evil.  
Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.  
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us;  
yes, establish the work of our hands!