

Daily Prayer

MONDAY, JUNE 1

Today's prayer is based on a prayer entitled "Christian Love" from The Valley of Vision published by The Banner of Truth Trust.

Lord Jesus, Lover of the unlovely,

I know You want me to love You
with heart, soul, mind, strength,
and my neighbor as myself.

Lord, I am not up to maintaining this attitude 24/7.

I cannot begin to see all the ulterior* motives at work in me.

It seems every fondness for You in me gets messed up in some way or other.

I cannot seem to break away from those things that habitually attract me.

Sometimes I feel like I am doing another's will, not mine -

but sometimes it is just me.

As eminently worthy of love as You are, I cannot sustain that love consistently enough,
until You set me free.

By Your grace I am your 'freeman'[woman], and I want to serve You,

for I believe You are my God
and that through You I am bought back
and my sins are forgiven.

Lord have mercy, in Your freedom I would walk in Your ways -

but I cannot walk in Your liberty,
any more than I could first attain it, of myself.

Lord, please have Your Spirit draw me nearer and ever nearer to You and Your ways.

You, Lord, are the end of all means,

for if they do not lead me to You,
I go away empty.

Order my ways by Your holy Word,

make Your commands the joy of my heart,
that, by them I may live happily before You.

Help me grow in Your love -

and help me show that love to all.

Loving Spirit, make me like the loving Jesus,

temper me with His good will,
make my actions conduits of good will,
let others see Jesus' love in me - and then glorify His name.

The more you do in love in and by me,

humble me the more;
keep me meek, lowly,
and always ready to give You honor.

For Jesus and His reputation's sake. Amen.

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Prayer pulls the rope below and the great bell rings above in the ears of God. Some scarcely stir the bell, for they pray so languidly. Others give but an occasional pluck at the rope. But he who wins with heaven is the man who grasps the rope boldly and pulls continuously, with all his might.

- Charles Haddon Spurgeon

**ulterior* = Lying beyond what is evident, revealed, or avowed, especially being concealed intentionally so as to deceive.