

# Daily Prayer

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Today's prayer is based on John 16.20-24 ESV.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for telling your followers as you were preparing them for your coming crucifixion, resurrection and ascension:

*you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice.  
You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.*

Lord, I *still* have things to grieve about and the world still goes merrily on its way. Thank you for the promise that my griefs will at last dissolve into joy.

*When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come,  
but when she has delivered the baby,  
she no longer remembers the anguish,  
for joy that a human being has been born into the world.*

Lord, thank you for this vivid reminder that, as tough as things may be at present, one day I will not remember the trouble, but will celebrate with great joy!

*So also you have sorrow now,*

I do. There are many things that trouble my heart.  
As you gave me increase - children and grandchildren -  
I am astonished at how their difficulties become my difficulties,  
and that is just my family.  
Friends and colleagues extend that circle of concern far beyond  
anything *I* can control.  
I realize how powerless I am to protect and provide for all these.

*but I will see you again,*

Thank you for the reminder that you, Lord, are the victor over death.  
That nothing is too difficult for you.  
That things I worry about You see also and are not worried.  
I know that ultimately, you win,  
and that everything will work out according to your will.

*and your hearts will rejoice,  
and no one will take your joy from you.*

You promise me that my heart will rejoice  
and that no one will take my joy from me.  
Lord, may I be so bold as to remind you that you promised to be my God  
and the God of my children.  
If my children are not with me on that day,  
I have a hard time understanding how I can be happy with that.

*In that day you will ask nothing of me.*

I know that, on that day, many things will become clear that are murky now.  
In the face of your glory I will have no questions.

*Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name,  
he will give it to you.*

I am asking you again for the eternal security of those I love.

*Until now you have asked nothing in my name.*

That is not nothing.

*Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.*

Thank you, Lord.

I am taking you at your word.

Grant that I might live to see the fulfillment of these, your promises.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

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Delayed answers to prayer are not only trials of faith; they also give us opportunities to honor God through our steadfast confidence in Him, even when facing the apparent denial of our request.

- Charles Haddon Spurgeon