

PRAYER LESSON:
THE GIFTS OF THE FATHER
AND THE LOVE OF THE SON

We have been reviewing the gifts given by our Lord in the New Testament. Those would be located in the New Testament books of Romans, 1 Corinthians and Ephesians. I was getting ready to share teachings on the gifts in Romans and Ephesians when the Lord cast my attention on a gift we so often forget. That gift would be the unsurpassable love Father bestowed upon Jesus in sending Him to earth to die for the sins of mankind. That Godly love encompasses the willingness of the Son to die for us and ransom mankind from an eternity in hell, if that is the choice we make as individuals. The Holy Spirit never forces Himself upon us. We must invite Jesus in and ask Him to be our personal sacrifice. It's quite unlikely you have never done that if you are reading this prayer lesson. Just in case you haven't, at the end of this lesson will be a way you can do just that.

Psalm 147:17-18: "He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold? He sends out his word, and melts them: he causes his wind to blow, and the waters flow."

As is my habit, I was reading the word and came across the above passages. Immediately, I realized there was something incongruent in them. It's talking about elements of weather when right smack in the middle, it mentions the *word* going forth and melting the ice from the cold. Well, 'word' is not weather elements— or is it? What melts ice? Warmth; and what is the warmest source-element affecting our planet? I did not say *from* our planet because that would be the planet's core. I said placing a warming affect on the planet. That warming effect is the SUN or is it SON? Well, I kind of did a little happy dance when I realized I found another reference to our Lord in the Psalms. Long before Jesus appeared in the minds of man, the Father viewed the Son as the Word.

That's when the Holy Spirit took me on a path of love. I'll read from any translation, but I don't study from that many. The three I read and study from the most would be the King James, the Amplified: what I believe they are calling the Classic. And the last translation I study from is the NET Bible. I appreciate when a committee puts in a lot of work to render passages as faithfully to the original language as possible. The Thompson Chain Reference puts out quite a few versions of the Bible. I will study from any Reference Bible they put out. They also do one from the NIV. But it is the only NIV I will even look at. The committee that put together the NIV in the Thompson Chain Reference gives quite a lot of explanations as to why they translated something the way they did. Otherwise, I will not even look at an NIV.

With that as a background, let me give you a Scripture from multiple translations that the Holy Spirit took me through to reinforce the love the Father and Son have for us. I felt the reason was so that we could understand the love the Father had in order to send the Son as a sacrifice to buy us back from an eternity in hell. If we are not convinced in God's love for us, we will not pray or study or want to talk to God and have a relationship with Him. If we do not know for a fact that He loves us, we will not seek Him. You don't seek out what you do not love or what you don't think loves you. Christians who know the Father's love know His voice and are able to pray with a passion many are unable to experience. Here are the passages the Holy Spirit gave me as our prayer lesson, in various and multiple versions.

King James Version:

Romans 8:37-39: "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

NET Bible©:1

Romans 8:37-39: “No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us! For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor heavenly rulers, nor things that are present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition©:2

Romans 8:37-39: “Yet amid all these things we are more than conquerors and gain a surpassing victory through Him Who loved us. For I am persuaded beyond doubt (am sure) that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor things impending and threatening nor things to come, nor powers, Nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

New American Standard Bible©:3

Romans 8:37-39: “But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

New Living Translation©:4

¹ See <https://www.bible.org/netbible> for copyright information

² See <https://www.biblegateway.com> and all the copyright information for each version that goes along with it. That can be seen by using their chart and clicking on the listed version.

³ *ibid*

⁴ *ibid*

Romans 8:37-39: “No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow — not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below — indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The Voice©:⁵

Romans 8:37-39: “But no matter what comes, we will always taste victory through Him who loved us. For I have every confidence that nothing— not death, life, heavenly messengers, *dark* spirits, the present, the future, spiritual powers, height, depth, nor any created thing— can come between us and the love of God revealed in the Anointed, Jesus our Lord.”

Last Version

I leave you with this last version. I don’t usually read from it, but when I pulled up the passages on the footnoted website that holds the copyrights for these versions, The Message would not separate the passages out. It kept verses 31-39 together. I thought it was worth reprinting it from the website that is footnoted for all the different versions. As you pray, remember these passages of Scripture which talk about God’s love for us. I hope they help you see answered prayer and a closer walk with Jesus.

The Message©:⁶

Romans 8:31-39: “So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn’t hesitate to put everything on the

⁵ ibid

⁶ ibid

line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us— who was raised to life for us!— is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture: 'They kill us in cold blood because they hate you. We're sitting ducks; they pick us off one by one'.⁷ None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I'm absolutely convinced that nothing— nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable— absolutely *nothing* can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us."

In Closing

I realize this is a bit of an unorthodox prayer lesson in that I'm not telling you or teaching you anything. There is a reason for that. I can't really teach you about love. Love is something you must experience for yourself. The best way to experience God's love is through His word. The Bible tells us that the word is Jesus Christ (John 1:1-37). The more you study His word, the more you learn about the love of Jesus for His bride, the Church. I can tell you God loves you all day long, but the reality of that love must be between you and Him. Reading His word and praying will take you much closer to Jesus than anything I can teach you. If you don't know Jesus and would like to ask Him into your heart, He is as close as a prayer: "Jesus, I repent of my sin. I believe that you died, was buried and rose again from the dead. I believe you're coming

⁷ Paul is quoting from Psalm 44:22 here in Romans 8. You can see the difference in the translation when you read the Psalm in something like the King James or the NET Bible. It is why I don't normally read from this translation, but I thought how they rendered Romans 8 was quite interesting by making it much easier to understand in our own vernacular.

again. Please come into my heart and be my Lord and best friend.
Amen.”

The prayer is simple. Father God designed it to be. It’s so simple a child can pray and so easy to know God loves us that even a doubter can believe. If you would like further prayer, hit any of the contact buttons on this website.