

Our Lenten 2021 theme is "This Is A TEST!" We note twelve tests that God's people and even Jesus Himself faced. **Today our focus is "The Prayer Test."** In times of need--need of wisdom or support--will we seek God in prayer first or only after things get "really bad"?

HWC 440 O FOR A HEART TO PRAISE MY GOD

- 1 O for a heart to praise my God
A heart from sin set free
A heart that always feels Thy blood
So freely shed for me!
- 2 A heart resigned submissive meek
My great Redeemer's throne
Where only Christ is heard to speak
Where Jesus reigns alone
- 3 A heart in every thought renewed
And full of love divine
Perfect and right and pure and good
A copy Lord of Thine
- 4 Thy nature gracious Lord impart
Come quickly from above
Write Thy new name upon my heart
Thy new best name of love.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

P O Lord, open my lips,

C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

+ READINGS +

OT READING

Psalm 63:1–8 NIV

A psalm of David. When he was in the Desert of Judah.

¹ You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;
I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you,
in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

² I have seen you in the sanctuary
and beheld your power and your glory.

³ Because your love is better than life,
my lips will glorify you.

⁴ I will praise you as long as I live,
and in your name I will lift up my hands.

⁵ I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods;
with singing lips my mouth will praise you.

⁶ On my bed I remember you;
I think of you through the watches of the night.

⁷ Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your
wings.

⁸ I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

NT READING

1 John 5:12–16 NIV

¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have
the Son of God does not have life.

¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the
Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

¹⁴ This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if
we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if
we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that
we have what we asked of him.

¹⁶ If you see any brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray and God will give them life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that you should pray about that.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Luke 23:32–34 NIV

³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord,
my God.

C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from
those who rise against me.**

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my
salvation.

C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from
those who rise against me.**

HWC 393 NEARER MY GOD TO THEE

sts. 1, 3–4

1 Nearer my God to Thee nearer to Thee
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me
Still all my song shall be nearer my God to Thee
Nearer my God to Thee nearer to Thee

3 There let the way appear steps unto heav'n
All that Thou sendest me in mercy giv'n
Angels to beckon me nearer my God to Thee
Nearer my God to Thee nearer to Thee

4 Then with my waking tho'ts bright with Thy praise
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise
So by my woes to be nearer my God to Thee
Nearer my God to Thee nearer to Thee

SERMON: THE PRAYER TEST (THIS IS A TEST! PART 11)

+ PRAYER +

OUR PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

**☐ Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and
the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

☐ The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love
of God the Father and the communion of the Holy
Spirit be with you all.

☐ Amen.

- 1 Have Thine own way Lord have Thine own way
Thou art the Potter I am the clay
Mold me and make me after Thy will
While I am waiting yielded and still.

- 3 Have Thine own way Lord have Thine own way
Wounded and weary help me I pray
Power all power surely is Thine
Touch me and heal me Savior divine

- 4 Have Thine own way Lord have Thine own way
Hold o'er my being absolute sway
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only always living in me!

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