



Prayergram®

May-June 2025



God, our Secure Care

“But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Today, we are living in an age of man-made securities. For instance, our government provides various security related services, such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, savings protections, and measures against natural disasters. Despite the endless list, our people feel more insecure than ever. When we are prosperous and healthy, we feel invincible. In the exuberance of our well-being, financial stability, and the comforts and conveniences of an industrial society, almost everything seems beyond interruption and discomfort. This sense of invincibility also carries into some religious circle as well, fostering self-reliance than God-reliance. And then something comes along that suddenly makes us realize there is no real security apparatus outside of Christ, our Rock.

No matter how secure we are financially, no matter how efficiently we plan, events outside our control can devastate us. Choose your event, a natural disaster, a serious illness, an economic crash, or new technology that makes our products and services obsolete. No matter how brilliantly we plan, or how well we execute, events in which we have no control over can ruin what we spend a lifetime toiling and building. Only God knows what lies ahead and his ways are always perfect! Trials and difficulties have a way of maturing us and bringing us to the realization that we are not invincible as we think. In business, as well as in personal life, it is healthy to realize how fragile life really is! When we come to the realization of our total dependency on God, we can face all events of life with an undefeatable spirit and a joyful countenance. **“There is none holy as the Lord for there is none beside thee; neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed”** [1 Samuel 2:2,3].

Let's not trouble our mind with puzzles that we cannot solve. The wisdom of God is unparalleled, and His powers are boundless. Faith is not a gullible optimism but a sublime reality. We can rest upon God's Word, knowing that His Words are true and trustworthy. **“Now abides faith, hope, love”**—faith in God, hope in His purpose, love that endures and is kind. Faith is a gift that we can ask for it! **“O Lord,”** prayed a man in the Bible, **“I believe; help Thou mine unbelief.”** The person of faith does not ask around for validation; it is by his personal faith that he is led to walk with God. That is the divine formula; we come to experience when we believe, and not before. It is human nature to seek sight, but it is important to believe and trust even when we cannot see. Faith is not a doctrine to dissect but a way of life. As Habakkuk 2:4 states, **“the just shall live by his faith.”** This means daily relying on God's infinite resources. As Christians we must learn how to set aside the valuation of the world and consider things only according to the value of the kingdom of God. Do not long for the praise or the applause of men; they are short-lived. Always

remember that we follow a despised Christ. In our hour of trials, when earthly help fails, let us keep our heart close to the Man of sorrow Who was wounded for our transgressions. When we are in pain, He shares our pain with us. Will you accept Him as your all-sufficient God?

The Lord saves us from sin, but much more than that He makes sure we are cared for. The Lord provided oil and meals for the widow who fed Elisha, and bread and fish for the multitude, showing He can repeat miracles endlessly. Jesus taught His disciples, **“Give us this day our daily bread.”** Many people in modern society do not engage in daily prayer for their needs. Natural, or unnatural conditions have no bearing on God’s ability to care for His people. Thank God, out in the desert, God sent manna and quail sufficient to feed millions of Israelites for over a period of 40 years. So today, neither inflation, recession, Wall Street fluctuations, war, peace, or any other occurrences can prevent God from caring for those who put their trust in Him.

Biblical faith reserves no option. **“Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed”** (John 20:29). It is through our simple faith that we are led into the fulness of God. Size means nothing to God. He can take a mustard seed of faith and turn a mountain upside down. When we really give it all up, quit struggling with the problem, let Jesus have it, and go on our way as if it were His problem, and not ours. God has a way of sustaining his people regardless of natural, or unnatural occurrences. The story of Elijah being sustained by God’s power is found in 1 Kings chapter 17. Elijah lived near the brook Cherith. At his cabin, he did not have a refrigerator, a pantry or even a portable microwave. Furthermore, there was no restaurant, no convenient store near the brook Cherith. It was Elijah and his God—period. What a powerful combination! However, there was a divine supply that was dispatched to him every day by special delivery. Verse 6 says, **“And the ravens (a scavenger, carnivorous bird) brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.”**

Imagine, ravens were summoned by God to look after one of His chosen prophets, Elijah. When God’s true prophets execute His Word faithfully, without seeking man’s approval, believe me, He will summon the entire creation to be by their side. God has done great things for us in the past, and yet today, we stand facing similar obstacles, we look here and there and trouble our brains for a solution. All the time the Lord is standing right by us, waiting for us to get ready so that He can perform the impossible. F.B. Meyer, the famous South African preacher was right when he said, **“You do not test the resources of God till you undertake the impossible.”** When we look around, all we can see is a basket full of needs, and a bunch of ‘believing unbelievers,’ always attempting to downplay the miraculous provisions of God. What about the true and living God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Can we not see Him there, too!? Let us never forget that Jehovah cares for His people!

The Christian faith has withstood the test of time and will continue to provide a spiritual beachhead for many generations to come. Despite unbelief and pessimism, Christians still put their faith in Jesus Christ, who is king forever! God’s kingdom cannot be shaken. When trials come, keep your spirit calm and unruffled. Rest in God. Trust in His strength. Go forward in His name and depend on His wonderful provision. Beloved, if you are walking in faith, you will not have any reason to fear the uncertain future. Our future is in God’s hands; He will find a way when it seems impossible. Do not put your trust in people, as they are transient; but Christ endures forever and remains steadfastly by our side. That is unshakable faith for uncertain time.

Beloved, if you are gainfully employed, then thank Him each moment for your employment. If you are unemployed, trust in God’s provision. Always remember, nothing ever stays perfect, or permanent, except our faith in the living God. Let’s be circumspect, and trust in God’s mercy and walk humbly before Him each moment! Simple faith and abiding trust will remove doubts, mountains of unbelief, mountains of difficulty. Never doubt God’s protection and provision, proceed humbly, and travel unafraid and unruffled. Remember that God is by our side, cheering

us on to victory!

Always remember, in today's fluctuating economy, before you know it, your "nest egg" can become "scrambled egg." God is the divine facilitator and enabler. There is none beside Him. Wonders and miracles have unfolded and more still will unfold beyond our comprehension. Let us forsake all our worries and fears and follow God, our Guide and Benefactor. We achieve our creative purpose not by accident but by Divine Design! It is God who gives us direction and purpose for our earthly pilgrimage. He is the never-failing and all-encompassing force of life! It is truly amazing!

Empires rise and fall, economies flourish and collapse, but he who seeks the face of God in humble trust remains unfazed. **If your lamp is about to flicker out, add some 'oil of faith' to keep the flame burning. Don't let the past failures cloud your vision of the future!**

--- Matthew Skariah

CHRISTIANITY IN A NUTSHELL

"Christianity is Christ and Christ is Christianity."

As believers, it's not our job to rewrite Christian history or change the biblical precepts to suit our own fancy. The Christian history is already written, and it's written in blood and sealed with the power of the 'empty tomb'. The immortal words of Tertullian (160-220), the Roman centurion who was converted to Christianity come to mind, **"The more you mow us down the more numerous we grow; the blood of Christians is seed."** We are not the originators of the Christian faith; others have followed the same path of biblical devotion and faced trials, persecutions, disappointments, and even death. Despite these challenges, they maintained their adherence to their beliefs and faith. Now it is incumbent on us to carry the baton and pass it on to the next generation of faithful believers. **"Faith of our Fathers! Holy Faith! We will be true to Thee till death!"** Lord, give us the courage and tenacity of those who were faithful unto death!

Let's have no agenda, no program, no pandering—simply Christ and Christ alone! Christianity is not about me or you, it's about Jesus, the One Who bled and died on a cruel cross, and was placed in a sealed tomb, and rose again in glory. He now sits at the right hand of the Father, interceding on our behalf. In Christianity there is no aristocracy, no caste system, no upper class, no lower class and no First world and no Third world. In Christianity, we are brothers and sisters who are bonded by the love of Christ and sealed with His precious blood. Christianity places the emphasis on the individual believer. Through history's broad sweep, it has profoundly altered the spiritual landscape of the world in various ways by bringing 'hope and healing' to a world wounded by sin, prejudice and hate. The emphasis always has been transforming the individual regardless of his or her social standing, giving everyone an equal and fair opportunity to meet the Man who loves their soul. Jesus transforms the human heart and brings unity under the symbol of the cross. Believe me, Christianity alone can bridge the gap now exists in the world and bring much needed 'peace and sanity' to a world that has gone wacky. Christians are like seed scattered throughout the world living under hostile circumstances and among hostile people. We are often misunderstood for loving a world that loves to hate. To me, that is the majesty of the Christian faith and why should we be ashamed of a Savior who spoke from the cross about loving those who hate and despise us. In my humble view, our mandate is divinely ordained.

That is Christianity pure and simple!

--- Matthew Skariah

A FRIENDLY NUDGE

If your life is like most, lack of time has become the norm rather than the exception, and excuses like, "there are not enough hours in the day to maintain a prayer life" are no longer sufficient. Next time when time becomes an issue, we need to remember that "it is not a case of finding time but making time for what's important and most needful." It is essential to maintain an open line of communication with our heavenly Father who longs to hear from us.

If we can help others by praying, do so without delay or hesitation! A timely prayer of compassion may be just what someone else needs. God's love is not for hoarding, it is for sharing. When we pray, God answers and helps others. Prayer increases the survival rate of Christians. So, pray on!

Words of Encouragement

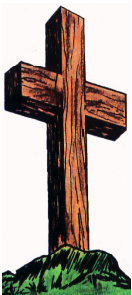
Believe it or not, the world is full of gloom, sadness, and sorrow. So, it is unnecessary for us to spread further gloom and negativity. Let's seize the opportunity to give encouragement to someone today! Beloved, there will always be trials to overcome in life, and that is what makes life more meaningful and rewarding. Through trials, we achieve our deepest spiritual connection with the father. George Matthew Adams tells us that "Encouragement is oxygen to the soul." It's easy to enjoy the exhilaration of Pentecost but forget the anguish of Gethsemane and Calvary. Can we obtain grape juice without crushing the grapes? Can we receive the crown without the cross?

If you are a believer, trials will find you but will never conquer you.
Remember, Jesus is with us in all our trials

REVIVAL with Matthew Skariah

May 18-21

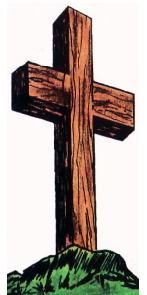
Washington County Baptist Church, Lincoln, Arkansas
David Isaac, Pastor



PRAYER IS THE MIGHTIEST FORCE -- 2 Chronicles 7:14

Website: www.worldprayerband.com

E-mail: mwpbs@yahoo.com



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Phone: (575) 626-5097 • World Prayer Band P.O. Box 92953 • Southlake, Texas 76092