

For Study at Foundational Hall University (FHU) Wednesday 11/15/23

Prepared by Gene Marie Kennedy for virtual study

IF WE ARE SERIOUSLY COMMITTED TO THE MOST VITAL AND CHALLENGING ISSUE, THAT OF ELIMINATING RACIAL PREJUDICE AND WORKING TOWARDS TRUE RACIAL JUSTICE, TRUE RACIAL UNITY, AND TRUE RACIAL HEALING, HOW MIGHT WE VIEW THE TEXTS WE ARE STUDYING? ALSO, HOW MIGHT THESE VERSES BE ABUSED?

1. WHAT WOULD YOU START DOING?
2. WHAT WOULD YOU STOP DOING?
3. WHAT WOULD YOU CONTINUE DOING?

TABLETS OF THE DIVINE PLAN --

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/99f7f601-a398-458f-8065-ee5ccf02b8e4/tablets%20of%20the%20divine%20plan-0004-10c04d9.pdf>

As we complete our review of the prayers revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahs for Baha'is of the U.S. and Canada, we conclude with the prayer from Tablet #14 in the context of the three conditions described in Tablet #8. The line numbers refer to the study document formatted for use in Foundation Hall University (FHU) prepared by Barbara Talley, accessible at the above link.

TABLET #8 CONDITIONS

792: The first condition is firmness in the Covenant of God. For the power of the Covenant will protect the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh from the doubts of the people of error. It is the fortified fortress of the Cause of God and the firm pillar of the religion of God.

827: The second condition: Fellowship and love amongst the believers. The divine friends must be **attracted** to and **enamored** of each other and **ever be ready and willing to sacrifice their own lives for each other.**

- Then the whole world will become the Paradise of Abhá, every one of the believers of God will become a blessed tree, producing wonderful fruits.

861: The third condition: Teachers must continually travel to all parts of the continent, nay, rather, to all parts of the world, but they must travel like ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, who journeyed throughout the cities of America. He was sanctified and free from every attachment and in the utmost severance.

TABLET #14 PRAYER [lines 1959-1990]

Let whosoever travels to different parts to teach, peruse over mountain, desert, land and sea this supplication:

O GOD! O God! **Thou seest** my weakness, lowliness and humility before Thy creatures; nevertheless, I **have trusted** in Thee and **have arisen** in the promotion of Thy teachings among Thy strong servants, relying on Thy power and might.

O Lord! I am a broken-winged bird and **desire to soar** in Thy limitless space. How is it possible for me to do this save through Thy **providence and grace, Thy confirmation and assistance.**

O Lord! Have pity on my weakness, and **strengthen me** with Thy power. O Lord! Have pity on my impotence, and **assist me** with Thy might and majesty.

O Lord! Should the breath of the Holy Spirit confirm the weakest of creatures, he would attain all to which he aspireth and would possess anything he desireth. Indeed, Thou hast assisted Thy servants in the past and, though they were the **weakest** of Thy creatures, the **lowliest** of Thy servants and the most **insignificant** of those who lived upon the earth, through Thy sanction and potency they took precedence over the most glorious of Thy people and the most noble of mankind. Whereas formerly they were as moths, they **became as royal falcons**, and whereas before they were as brooks, they **became as seas**, through Thy bestowal and Thy mercy. They became, through Thy most great

favor, **stars** shining on the horizon of guidance, **birds** singing in the rose gardens of immortality, **lions** roaring in the forests of knowledge and wisdom, and **whales** swimming in the oceans of life.

Verily, Thou art the Clement, the Powerful, the Mighty, and the Most Merciful of the merciful.

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