

PRAYERS, BLESSINGS, PRINCIPLES OF FAITH AND DIVINE SERVICE FOR NOAHIDES

"The earth and all therein is the Lord's." (Psalms 24:1)



BY RABBI MOSHE WEINER INCLUDING DAILY PRAYERS
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Principles of Faith and Divine Service

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Explore the Meaning of Prayer

The intent of prayer is to ask for one's physical needs, but the true main purpose is to connect with the Creator. A constant connection with God is also an essential human need – that God should be with a person in all his ways (and all of his ways should be fitting for this connection). According to biblical study, the prayer itself is a connection, made through conversation, requests, and praises to God, Who hears the prayer of all and also provides this spiritual need. A main part of prayer is one's concentration on the greatness of God and the Truth of His Existence, to set these ideas in one's heart, in all areas of life.

Awareness of God

The <u>basic foundation</u> and the first principle of faith is to know that there is a Primary Being who brought all existence into being. All of the entities in the spiritual and physical realms come into existence only from the truth of His Being. This Being is the God of the universe and the Master of the entire earth. He controls the spheres and the entire universe with infinite and unbounded power that continues without interruption. This God is one, and only can be one, and not two or more. He is one with a complete unification that surpasses any of the types of unity that are part of the created realms. He is completely unified, and there exists no unity similar to His within the created realms.

God's ability and power have no limitation or boundary. His power is not the power of a body, and He does not have a body or any form.

Just as His Existence is of an entirely different nature than that of the created beings, so too, His Truth is incomparable to their truth. For all the created beings require Him, and He, blessed be He, does not require them. The obligation of this knowledge is not only to understand this precept once and to agree and set it in one's heart. It is a continuous obligation for a person to think about and contemplate the existence of the Master

of the universe and His greatness in order to set this knowledge strongly in his heart and mind. One should constantly reflect upon this, as King David wrote, "I place God before me always; because He is at my right hand I shall not falter." This recognition of the existence of God includes acceptance of His Kingship and His constant authority.

Daytime Prayers

Upon awakening, a person should consider in Whose Presence he lies; he should be mindful of the Supreme King of kings, the Holy One, blessed be He, as it is said (Isaiah 6:3), "The whole world is filled with His glory."

After preparing oneself for prayer, recite:

I offer thanks to You, living and eternal King, for You have mercifully restored my soul within me; Your faithfulness is great.

Lord of the universe, Who reigned before anything was created – at the time when His will brought all things into being, then was His Name proclaimed King. And after all things will be uplifted, the Awesome One will reign alone. He was, He is, and He shall be in glory. He is One, and there is no other to compare to Him, to call His equal. Without beginning, without end, power and dominion

belong to Him. He is my God and my ever-living Redeemer, the strength of my lot in time of distress. He is my banner and my refuge, my portion on the day I call. Into His hand I entrust my spirit when I sleep and when I wake. And with my soul, my body too, the Lord is with me, I shall not fear.

Blessed is He Who spoke, and the universe came into being; blessed is He.

Blessed is He Who says and does.

Blessed is He Who decrees and fulfills.

Blessed is He Who creates all that exists.

Blessed is He Who has compassion on the earth.

Blessed is He Who has compassion on the created beings.

Blessed is He Who provides good reward to those who fear Him.

Blessed is He Who lives forever and exists eternally.

Blessed is He Who redeems and saves; blessed is His Name.

Psalms of praise

For the choirmaster with instrumental music, a Psalm, a song. May God be gracious to us and bless us; may He make His countenance shine upon us forever, so that Your way will be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. The nations will extol You O God; all the nations will extol You. The nations will rejoice and sing for joy, for You will judge the peoples justly and guide the nations upon the earth forever. The peoples will extol You, O God; all the people will extol You. The earth will yield its produce, and God, our God, will bless us. God will bless us; and all, from the farthest corners of the earth, will fear Him.

A Psalm for the thanks offering. Let all the earth sing in jubilation to the Lord. Serve the Lord with joy; come before Him with exulta-tion. Know that the Lord is God; He has made us and we are His, His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with gratitude, His courtyards with praise; give thanks to Him, bless His Name. For the Lord is good, His kindness is everlasting, and His faithfulness is for all generations.

A Psalm of praise by David: I will exalt You, my God the King, and bless Your Name forever. Every day I will bless You, and extol Your Name forever. The Lord is great and exceed-ingly exalted; there is no limit to His greatness.

One generation to another will laud Your works, and tell of Your mighty acts. I will speak of the splendor of Your glorious majesty and of Your wondrous deeds. They will proclaim the might of Your awesome acts, and I will Your greatness. They will express remembrance of Your abounding goodness, and sing of Your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and of great kindness. The Lord is good to all, and His mercies extend over all His works. Lord, all Your works will give thanks to You, and Your pious ones will bless You. They will declare the glory of Your kingdom, and tell of Your strength, to make known to mankind His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His kingdom. Your kingship is a kingship over all worlds, and Your dominion is throughout all generations. The Lord supports all who fall, and straightens all who are bent. The eyes of all look expectantly to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. The Lord is righteous in all His ways, and benevolent in all His deeds. The Lord is close to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him, hears their cry and delivers them. The Lord watches over all who love Him, and will destroy all the wicked. My mouth will utter the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless His holy Name forever.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord while I live; I will chant praises to my God while I exist. Do not place your trust in nobles, nor in a human being, for he does not have the ability to bring deliverance. When his spirit departs, he returns to his earth; on that day, his plans come to naught. Fortunate is he whose help is the God of Jacob, he whose hope rests upon the Lord his God – Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, Who safeguards truth forever. He renders justice to the oppressed; He gives food to the hungry; the Lord releases those who are bound. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord straightens those who are bowed; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the strangers; He gives strength to the orphan and widow; He thwarts the way of the wicked. The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord! Praise God in His holiness; praise Him in the firmament of His strength. Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to His abundant greatness. Praise Him with the sounding of the ram's horn; praise Him with harp and lyre. Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and flute. Praise Him with resounding cymbals; praise Him with clanging cymbals. Let the entire soul praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!

Blessed is the Lord forever, Amen and Amen.11 Blessed is the Lord from Zion, Who dwells in Jerusalem; praise the Lord! Blessed is the Lord God, the God of Israel, Who alone performs wonders. Blessed is His glorious Name forever, and may the whole earth be filled with His glory, Amen and Amen.

Verbally accepting God's Unity and Kingship:

Almighty God, we accept upon ourselves that which is written in Your Torah: "You shall know this day and take to your heart that God [alone] is God, in the heavens above and on the earth below – there is none other!"14 We affirm the precepts of "You shall love God, your God, with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your might;" and "Fear God, your God, and serve Him, and in His Name [alone] shall you vow;"16 and, as it says, "Fear God and keep His commandments, for that is a person's entire duty."

For devout prayer, asking God for one's needs:

Blessed are You, God, the Supreme Being who bestows abundant kindness.

Please endow us graciously with wisdom, understanding and knowledge.

Please accept our repentance, and forgive us for our errors and sins.

Grant complete healing for all our wounds and ailments.

Bestow upon us all the needs for our sustenance from Your bounty.

Hasten the day of which it is said: "God will be King over the entire earth; in that day God will be One and His Name One;"18 "For then I will turn the peoples to pure language, so that all will call upon the Name of God to serve Him with one purpose;"and "They will not harm or destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with knowledge of God as water covering the sea bed."

Hear our voice, God, our merciful Father, have compassion upon us and accept our prayers in mercy and favor. Blessed are You, God, who hears prayer.

One may optionally say the following

Prayer of the Repentant:

O God, I have erred, sinned and willfully transgressed before You, and I have done that which is evil in Your eyes, especially with the sin(s) of ... (state the specific sins or errors).

I am sincerely ashamed of my sins, and I repent and firmly undertake not to do so again.

Please God, in Your infinite grace and compassion, forgive my sins and transgressions and grant me atonement, as it is written: "Let the wicked abandon his way and the man of iniquity his thoughts; and let him return unto God, and He will show him compassion, and to our God, for He will pardon abundantly." And it is written: "Do I desire at all that the wicked should die, says the Lord, God; it is rather that he return from his ways and live!"

The following Psalm may also be said at other times, when one is in need – as a prayer for God's help, or that God will send healing from illness, or delivery from trouble or difficulties; one should mention the name of the person who is being prayed for, and be strengthened in faith and trust in God.

For the choirmaster, a Psalm by David. May the Lord answer you on the day of distress; may the Name of the God of Jacob fortify you. May He send your help from the Sanctuary, and support you from Zion. May He remember all your offerings, and always accept favorably your sacrifices. May He grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill your every plan. We will rejoice in your deliverance, and raise our banners in the Name of our God; may the Lord fulfill all your wishes. Now I know that the Lord has delivered His anointed one, answering him from His holy heavens with the mighty saving power of His right hand. Some [rely] upon chariots and some upon horses, but we invoke the Name of the Lord our God. They bend and fall, but we rise and are invigorated. Lord, deliver us; may the King answer us on the day we call.

Kingship is Yours, and to all eternity You will reign in glory, as it is written in Your Torah: The Lord will reign forever and ever. And it is said: The Lord shall be King over the entire earth; on that day the Lord shall be One and His Name One.

Indeed, the righteous will extol Your Name; the upright will dwell in Your presence.