

**THE DAILY PRAYER BOOK, FOR
THE USE OF FAMILIES, WITH
ADDITIONAL PRAYERS FOR
SPECIAL OCCASIONS. BY
VARIOUS CONTRIBUTORS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649744589

The Daily Prayer Book, for the Use of Families, with Additional Prayers for Special Occasions.
By Various Contributors by John Stoughton

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOHN STOUGHTON

**THE DAILY PRAYER BOOK, FOR
THE USE OF FAMILIES, WITH
ADDITIONAL PRAYERS FOR
SPECIAL OCCASIONS. BY
VARIOUS CONTRIBUTORS**

THE
DAILY PRAYER BOOK.

THE
DAILY PRAYER BOOK,
FOR THE USE OF FAMILIES,
WITH
Additional Prayers for Special Occasions.

BY VARIOUS CONTRIBUTORS.

EDITED BY
JOHN STOUGHTON, D.D.

"Every head of a household ought to be Bishop in his own house."
Augustine.



London :
HODDER & STOUGHTON,
27, PATERNOSTER ROW.
MDCCCLXX.

138. f. 101.

PREFACE.

UNITED prayer is the duty and privilege of every household. When the social instincts of our nature are sanctified by the spirit of true devotion, the worship of the family becomes a blessed necessity; and to meet that deep and holy want is to enter the path of peace and joy. What enlightened reason, conscience, and affection suggest, the word of God authorizes and sanctions by example and precept. Respecting Abraham, the father of the faithful, God said: "I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him." That children and a household should be taught to keep "the way of the Lord," without being taught to pray to Him, is inconceivable. It is recorded in the history of David, that when he and the multitude had lodged the ark in the place provided for it, all the people departed, every man to his house; and what was intended by this language is suggested by the words which follow—"then David returned to *bleſs his*

household." Eli the high-priest was remiss in domestic duty, and we know the retribution which came upon his sons and upon himself.

The language in which the Hebrew parent was bound to secure a religious education to his children is most emphatic: "These words which I command thee this day shall be in thine heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children; and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates."

There is a beautiful continuity in the devotions of Christians, especially on the Lord's-day,—which is no exceptional season of worship, but rather a typical season intended to pour its own spirit of light and love into all other days, and to make them the images and reflections of itself;—private devotion in the morning prepares for family devotion afterwards; and family devotion, in like manner at eventide, prepares for private devotion; public worship comes between,—the reservoir of morning prayer, the fountain of evening praise. We gather up and carry into the house of God, what has been previously excited in our souls, we go from strength to strength, every one in Zion appeareth before God; we bring from the public altar of worship the fire which lightens up our hearth-

stone with the illumination of a Divine fellowship, and which helps us alone, before we lie down in slumber, to pay our last tribute of adoration at the close of the holy day.

The first day of the week should lead up to God, and hallow in His service the following six ; and not one morning, not one evening, should pass without leaving its memorial before Him.

In this daily service not a few need more or less of help. Happily, whatever controversies have been raised about forms of prayer in the Church, no controversy exists touching forms of prayer at home. Here, at least, most Christians are of one mind. Some heads of households do not possess the readiness of thought, the fluency of expression, and the confidence—the humble confidence—of manner, essential to a leading of the devotions of a family. To such persons, prayer-books are of essential use ; and to others, who are able generally to meet the demands of duty in this line of service, prayer-books may still prove of considerable although subordinate value. They may assist when they are not alone employed. They may suggest and guide when the filling up is supplied extemporaneously ; and when additional supplications and thanksgivings follow the inspiration of the printed text.

Devotional literature is rich in the present day in books of this description, but there is a growing demand for more and more. And this is the consequence of an obvious cause. Variety in family

devotion is very desirable—indeed, essential to the maintenance of real interest in its engagements : and therefore new domestic forms of worship will be sought from time to time, and the same family, if wise, will in succession use many.

Combined with the higher qualities of devotional literature, variety has been largely studied, and it is hoped successfully attained in the volume now issued, inasmuch as many hands have been employed in its production—the contributors varying in the number of their contributions from two prayers for a single day, to a series of prayers for a whole week. The compositions of the same pen however do not always follow in immediate order.

No particular chapters in the Holy Bible are indicated for reading in connection with these prayers, as the prayers are provided for only seven weeks, and no selection could be advantageously made for so short a period.

At the end of the volume will be found prayers adapted for particular occasions and seasons. They are more numerous and varied than such as are generally found in manuals of this description ; and, by the insertion of forms of devotions for great religious festivals, it is hoped that members of different communions may find the volume of service to them. Thank God, we can banish sectarianism from at least one kind of worship : whether Conformists or Nonconformists, our homes are brightened or shaded by like joys and sorrows, and what-

ever opinions may be formed of certain names given to certain days, all can employ the same language in celebrating the great facts of Christian Redemption.

The prayers contributed by the late Dr. Vaughan are selected from a volume which he published not long before his death, entitled "The Daily Prayer Book": the title has, by an arrangement with the family, been retained in this volume.