

2. Discussion

a. A Matter of Reality: Give us!

(1) Without laboring the point, man is dependent on God as is everything else in the created universe. He not only put it together but it is his power that maintains and prospers the universe. Without him and the enactments of his love the whole thing would fall.

(2) But men tend to forget this. Man quickly conceives of himself as having virtually all power. In our day we have seen many examples of it...at one time praying for the space shots and satellite travellers...but later assuming that our burgeoning technology was more than enough for any challenge. We quickly forget the role of God and while we might not want to spell it out with such force, that is how it proves to be. The dependent baby often forgets the kindness of his mother in later years and the dependent creature quickly forgets his God.

(3) This should not be true of Christians but unless we are careful in attitude and activity, it may easily become true. Hence in this prayer of instruction it is necessary to remind the believer that his yieldedness to God's care must be a regarded fact of life. "Give us.." is not a demand (although imperative in form)..it is the urgent statement of request by those who realize that if he does not give us, we will not have. One cannot live happily in a detached state from God and the sooner he comes to seek his daily care from God... the greater his enjoyment of spiritual reality.

(4) Now in this yieldedness to his care and in the expression of this prayer, there are three implicit truths:

-He knows...on the basis of knowledge and character...what is needful and right.