

Sunday 16 February 2025

Morning Service

Ambassadors, not slaves

Daniel 1:1-21

Rev Nathan Owens

**Jesus is the name we honour,
Jesus is the name we praise,
majestic Name above all other names,
the highest heav'n and earth proclaim
that Jesus is our God.**

**We will glorify, we will lift Him high,
we will give Him honour and praise.**

**We will glorify, we will lift Him high,
we will give Him honour and praise.**

**Jesus is the name we worship,
Jesus is the name we trust.
He is the King above all other kings,
let all creation stand and sing
that Jesus is our God.**

**We will glorify, we will lift Him high,
we will give Him honour and praise.**

**We will glorify, we will lift Him high,
we will give Him honour and praise.**

**Jesus is the Father's splendour,
Jesus is the Father's joy.
He will return to reign in majesty,
and ev'ry eye at last shall see
that Jesus is our God.**

**We will glorify, we will lift Him high,
we will give Him honour and praise.
We will glorify, we will lift Him high,
we will give Him honour and praise.**

Phil Lawson-Johnston

© 1991 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

All words are reproduced under Christian Copyright Licence No. 293885

Prayer

Daniel 1:1-21

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

Daniel 1:1-21

² And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. And he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god.

Daniel 1:1-21

³ Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility,

Daniel 1:1-21

4 youths without blemish, of good appearance and skilful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

Daniel 1:1-21

⁵ The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king.

Daniel 1:1-21

⁶ Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah of the tribe of Judah. ⁷ And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

Daniel 1:1-21

⁸ But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself.

Daniel 1:1-21

9 And God gave Daniel favour and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs, ¹⁰ and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, “I fear my lord the king, who assigned your food and your drink;

Daniel 1:1-21

for why should he see that you were in worse condition than the youths who are of your own age? So you would endanger my head with the king.”

Daniel 1:1-21

¹¹ Then Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

¹² “Test your servants for ten days; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink.

Daniel 1:1-21

¹³ Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat the king's food be observed by you, and deal with your servants according to what you see.” ¹⁴ So he listened to them in this matter, and tested them for ten days.

Daniel 1:1-21

¹⁵ At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food. ¹⁶ So the steward took away their food and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

Daniel 1:1-21

¹⁷ As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

Daniel 1:1-21

¹⁸ At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

Daniel 1:1-21

19 And the king spoke with them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Therefore they stood before the king.

Daniel 1:1-21

²⁰ And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom.

Daniel 1:1-21

²¹ And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.

Children's Talk

**Be bold, be strong
for the Lord your God is with you.
Be bold, be strong
for the Lord your God is with you.**

I am not afraid, no, no, no.

I am not dismayed, not me.

For I'm walking in faith and victory.

**Come on and walk in faith and victory,
for the Lord your God is with you.**

**Be bold, be strong
for the Lord your God is with you.**

**Be bold, be strong
for the Lord your God is with you.**

**I am not afraid, no, no, no.
I am not dismayed, not me.
For I'm walking in faith and victory.
Come on and walk in faith and victory,
for the Lord your God is with you.**

Andy Silver

© Andy Silver 1986

All words are reproduced under Christian copyright licence no. 293885

Prayer

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
to receive the food of Your holy word.**

**Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.**

**Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
all Your purposes, for Your glory.**

**Teach us Lord full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise,
cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built
as You fill the earth with Your glory.**

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music

All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

Prayer

Ambassadors, not slaves
Daniel 1:1-21

Prayer

**Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea;
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.**

**My name is written on His hands,
my name is hidden in His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands
no power can force me to depart.**

**When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see Him there
who made an end of all my sin.**

**Because the sinless Saviour died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the Just is satisfied
to look on Him and pardon me.**

**Behold Him there! The risen Lamb!
My perfect, sinless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I Am,
the King of glory and of grace.**

**One with the Lord, I cannot die;
my soul is purchased by His blood;
my life is safe with Christ on high,
with Christ my Saviour and my God.**

**I bow before the cross of Christ
and marvel at this love divine,
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
to make me righteous in God's eyes.**

**This river's depths I cannot know,
but I can glory in its flood:
the Lord most high has bowed down low
and poured on me His glorious love.**

Charitie Lees Bancroft 1841-1923

All words are reproduced under Christian Copyright Licence No. 293885

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**

Evening Service

How long, oh Lord
Psalm 13

Rev Nathan Owens

**By faith we see the hand of God;
in the light of creation's grand design
in the lives of those
who prove His faithfulness;
who walk by faith and not by sight.**

**By faith our fathers roamed the earth,
with the power of His promise in their hearts
of a Holy City built by God's own hand:
a place where peace and justice reign.**

**We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him,
our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished
and the work is done;
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.**

**By faith the prophets saw a day
when the longed for Messiah
would appear
with the power to break the chains
of sin and death
and rise triumphant from the grave.**

**By faith the church was called to go
in the power of the Spirit to the lost;
to deliver captives
and to preach good news,
in every corner of the earth.**

**We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him,
our soul's reward.**

**Till the race is finished
and the work is done;
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.**

**By faith this mountain shall be moved
and the power of the gospel shall prevail;
for we know in Christ all things are possible
for all who call upon His name.**

**We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him,
our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished
and the work is done;
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.**

Keith and Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend

© 2009 Thank you Music

All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

Prayer

Psalm 13

**How long, LORD? Will you
forget me forever?**

**How long will you hide
your face from me?**

**² How long must I wrestle
with my thoughts**

**and day after day
have sorrow in my heart?**

**How long will my
enemy triumph over me?**

Psalm 13

**³ Look on me and
answer, LORD my God.**

**Give light to my
eyes, or I will sleep in
death,**

**⁴ and my enemy will say,
“I have overcome him,”**

**and my foes will
rejoice when I fall.**

Psalm 13

**⁵ But I trust in your
unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in
your salvation.**

**⁶ I will sing the LORD's
praise,
for he has been good
to me.**

**All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
give my praise to the Fountain of delights,
for in my helplessness You heard my cry,
and waves of mercy
poured down on my life.**

**Beautiful Saviour, wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the way, the truth, the life.
Star of the morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the risen One, heaven's champion
and You reign, You reign over all!**

**I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,
I will sing of the blood that never fails,
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
of death defeated and life without end.**

**Beautiful Saviour, wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the way, the truth, the life.
Star of the morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the risen One, heaven's champion
and You reign, You reign over all!**

**I long to be
where the praise is never ending,
yearn to dwell
where the glory never fades,
where countless worshippers
will share one song,
and cries of 'worthy' will honour the Lamb!**

**Beautiful Saviour, wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the way, the truth, the life.
Star of the morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the risen One, heaven's champion
and You reign, You reign over all!**

Stuart Townend

© 1998 Thankyou Music All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

Prayer



PSALM 13

HOW LONG, OH LORD?



Prayer

**Lord, for the years
Your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us,
cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us,
pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years,
we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word,
the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts
and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains,
rebukes us and inspires us;
Lord of the word,
receive Your people's praise.**

**Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed
by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old,
for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land,
be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**Lord, for our world,
when we disown and doubt Him,
loveless in strength,
and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless,
lost indeed without Him;
Lord of the world,
we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord, for ourselves,
in living power remake us -
self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

Timothy Dudley Smith

© Author

All words reproduced under CCLI no 293005

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**