



## **“MY FATHER’S LOVE”**

**By Mary Mayko**

Ps.31:15a LB “But I am trusting you, O Lord.  
I said. “You alone are my God; my times are in your hands.”

**Our God is a loving God!** His Word reveals that fact to us over and over again! Our loving Father cares so much He has made provision for us to be with Him forever! John 3:16 is a verse many of us memorized as a child, but often not really understood until we are much older! In my own life, my early training and teaching were to be obeyed, whether I understood all the “whys” or not! I can now see my discipline when I was a child was essentially teaching me to walk in faith, trusting that *my parents really knew best and had reasons for requiring my obedience that would bring future benefits!*

We all go through times in our lives when it seems our Heavenly Father is neglecting us, not really protecting us or understanding us! Think back to your childhood! A loving father often required much from us we thought was rather unfair at the time! Did you ever think at those particular moments that he was uncaring or unable to see your viewpoint clearly? How many times have people felt that way about our Heavenly Father! People sometimes felt God would not or could not help us because of some failure, real or imagined, on our part! *Careful!* That attitude can cause a root of bitterness to take hold of our mind and heart!

Perhaps your earthly father was kindhearted and always there for you. He was available to help you through hard times in your childhood. If so, you are extremely blessed, as many fathers today neglect the spiritual training and discipline of their children! If your dad was demanding and harsh, that may give you a wrong picture of our Heavenly Loving Father! The Bible assures us that God keeps His promises! *Even though He may lead us through difficult times and situations that will never negate His love for us!* Some of our most important lessons are gained during these times!

**He has a definite plan for our lives!** He knows exactly how long we have on earth and encourages us to trust Him in our daily walk with Him. Deut 30:20a LB “Choose to love the LORD your God and to obey Him and cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days.”

As we read His promises, we gain assurance of His control of our lives and His love for us. Psalm 16:11 KJV “Thou will show me the path of life: In Thy Presence is fullness of

joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures forever more,” His hand will guide us along the right pathways of life! Sometimes we question if we are on the right path, but when we stray off it, the Lord will bring us back to it! The very fact that He promises to always be with us is a reason for great joy! His right hand indicates a place of His favor that brings pleasure both for Him and for us!

***What about the times we really need a hiding place?*** We seek a place of safety in the face of danger! There are many enemies of our soul, whether it is people, circumstances or Satanic Forces and we need a place to run to for protection! What better place than the shadow of His hands! Isaiah 51:16a LB “I have put my words in your mouth and hidden you safe within my hand.” When we are weak and helpless, let Him cover us under the shadow of His hand!

**How could our loving Father ever forget us?** He has us carved or inscribed on the palms of His hands! Isaiah 49:16a KJV “Behold, I have graven (carved) thee upon the palms of My hands,” He loves us dearly and holds us close! When He raises His hand to touch His heart, we are there with Him! We are so much more precious to Him than we can ever imagine! Do we visualize His loving hands upon us even though we do not always understand His ways? It will help us through many a dark valley when we know we cannot be separated from His hands, His heart and His knowledge of us! How we need to trust Him!

**When we feel faint and fearful and overwhelmed by the unknown, God’s hand is there to strengthen us.** We know then, He will enable us to accomplish whatever tasks lies ahead of us. When we are strengthened spiritually, we are encouraged to go forth with His blessing!

Ezra 7:28 KJV “I was strengthened as the hand of the LORD was upon me.”

### **“IN HIS HANDS”**

By Mary Mayko

Even before my birth, God saw and planned my life.  
He knew when I would have joy, as well as times of strife.  
So in Him, I have fully placed all my trust,  
Knowing it rains on the both the just and unjust!

I cried out in my troubles, but could not hear His voice!  
All of these heartaches are *surely not my choice!*  
He desires I release all my burdens into His hands,  
Then my life will be at peace as He fulfills His plans!

I may never know the reasons for all my pain,  
But surely the LORD has provided for my gain.  
My spiritual health grows according to His plans,  
And as for my life, I know I am safe in His hands!

Excerpt from: “The Overflowing Cup” By Mary Mayko Copyright 2004

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## **“TO EVERY GENERATION!”**

By Mary Mayko

Psalm 135:13 NIV

“Your Name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, through all generations.”



Psalm 78:1-4 NIV “O my people hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old - what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, His power, and the wonders He has done.”

We need to teach the wonders of God to every generation! The Psalmist said he would not hide what God has done from the children. Today’s generation truly needs to hear what the LORD has done and what His promises are for the future! When people fail to pass on knowledge of the Living God, morals fail, crime will rise, selfishness will prevail and people will do whatever is right in their own eyes! [Judges 17:6]

While there are many dedicated Believers today in America, we are seeing the results of a generation of our society who failed to teach God’s ways at home or in our schools our children about the righteousness and wonders of God! Prayer and when the Bible was removed from public schools it took away the godly influence of past generations. The general public tends to scorn the truth of God today!

The philosopher George Santayana said “Those who have no knowledge of history are condemned to repeat it.” Psalm 78 is a teaching (Maskil) Psalm of Israel’s past history to that generation. This Maskil Psalm means to make one wise and to have success or skill and to be intelligent! Isn’t that still desirable today? Psalm 78 teaches us truth about our God. As we read it, we are reminded to recall the incredible ways God has interacted and influenced His people!

Psalms were often sung as a way to help the younger generations memorize God’s involvement and faithfulness in their lives. How can we do that with our children today? Most of them love music and singing and churches have used that method of teaching down through the years. Music is a very important teaching tool to reach our generation for Christ. Every song has some kind of message in it. What are our children listening to today? When we sing Scriptures and God’s wonders, it passes on inspiring information to them!

Many try to escape their past or ancestors, but in all reality, we cannot disconnect from either! Though Christ, our sins are forgiven! We can recall many negative aspects of what we have done and be determined not to let that history repeat itself in our lives! We do not like to tell others about our “closet skeletons”, but we see that God never hid Israel’s sins, and indeed, exposed them to give them a chance to repent! He already knows all about us, *so in confessing to Him*, we find a cleansing relief and His peace! When we are forgiven, we can sing the songs of God’s wonders!

2 Tim. 3:15 KJV “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

## “WHAT TIME IS IT?”

Rev. JK Golding

“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.”

Psalm 90:12



We are entering one of the most interesting months of the year! **JUNE!** It is “sandwiched” in between Memorial Day at the end of May and Independence Day early in July. With Flag Day right in the middle of June! Lots of flags of red, white and blue colors are visible these months of May, June and July!

June is filled with lovely late Spring flowers and early Summer blooms! There is much activity with Proms, Promotions, Graduations, Fathers Day, and don’t forget all the June Weddings!

But, one of the most fascinating events in this month is the “longest day of the year!” we all enjoy those long, light and warm evenings in this month. We find ourselves half way through this year which causes me to ask, “How are you doing with those “New Year’s Resolutions? How many pounds are gone at this time? Has the savings funds really grown? Did you plan to read your Bible through this year and here it is June and you are only in Exodus?”

In the early 70’s the AARP Magazine ran an article about retirement time and using it. In this article was the following statement, written by Peter Dickinson, **“Time is money of life, you have just so much time to spend, how you spend it determines the quality of your life.”**

We all differ in finances, education, physical health and abilities, family and background, but in **TIME we are all equal!** We have the same sixty minutes to one hour, seven days to a week, and twelve months to a year. The question is, **“HOW DO WE SPEND THIS VALUABLE TIME?”**

God’s Word is clear, as it is possible to just waste our time! Read the warning about idleness in Proverbs 6:6-11

“Go to the ant thou sluggard; consider her ways and be wise: which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of sleep? A little folding of the hands to sleep: so shalt thy poverty come as one that travelth, and thy want as an armed man.”

Consider Proverbs 24:30-34

“I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding. And lo, it was all grown over with thorns and the nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down. Then I saw and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction: yet, a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: so shall thy poverty come as one that traveleth; and thy want as an armed man.”

When we drive down a road, and look about, it is easy to tell the folks that are interested in their home, and ambitions enough to have it well painted, a manicured lawn and a well kept fence. All this takes work and love!

The Word tells us, our life is short, **how short?** Like a **VANISHING VAPOR!**

James 4:14 “Where as ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor (like a mist) that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”

Job puts it another way. “O remember that my life is wind.” Job 7:7 How fast does the wind pass by?

All of these are like our text in Psalm 90:12. They help us to realize the brevity of life. With that in mind we need to consider some serious living. Knowing the Coming of Jesus is very close, these are the End Times, and the world about us is so frivolous, and none caring about eternal life, many not even believing in life after death!

Paul tells the Believer in Eph. 5:15-16 “See then that ye walk circumspectly (cautiously) not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”

There are three portions of scripture that clearly describe this day in which we live. Please read and consider carefully each of them.

Isa. 59:14 “And JUDGMENT is turned away backward, and JUSTICE standeth afar off: for TRUTH is fallen in the street, and EQUITY cannot enter.”

2 Tim.3:1-5 “This know also, that in the last days PERILOUS times shall come. For men shall be LOVERS of their own selves, COVETOUS, boasters, proud, BLASPHEMERS, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent (without self control) fierce despisers of them that are good. Traitors, heady, high minded, LOVERS of pleasures more than lovers of God. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”

2 Tim. 4:1-5 “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom. Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; REPROVE, REBUKE, exhort with all long-suffering and DOCTRINE. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers having itching ears. And they shall turn away their ears from the Truth, and shall be turned into fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions; do the work of an evangelist, making full proof of thy ministry.”

It is easy to spot the child who has “parenting” parents! It takes time and energy to do homework with them, help them with their interests in sports, music or art. It takes time to discipline them. Read what the Word says:

**TEACH THEM!**

Deut.6:7 “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.”

**TRAIN THEM:**

“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Prov.22:6

**NURTURE THEM:**

“And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition (guidance) of the Lord.” Eph. 6:4

**CONTROL THEM:**

“One that ruleth well his own house, having children in subjection (under control) with all gravity.” 1 Tim. 3:4

**LOVE them above all else!**

“That they may teach the young women to be sober (responsible) to love their husbands, to love their children.” Titus 2:4

The Bible promotes loving them, sometimes this is “tough love”! Proverbs 13:24 “He that spareth his rod hateth his son; but he that LOVETH him CHASTENETH him.” Why? Because that child is Adam’s child and foolishness is in him. Proverbs 22:15 “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”

There is little in the media, T.V. and the world about us to encourage useful employment of our time. Games, movies, and vacations are the way to go, but these are of little value in the end!

Each of us has only a given amount of time to spend with the Lord, with our family, and preparing for eternity. Use it wisely! You have long days in this month of June!

God bless you as you walk with the Lord!

Rev. J Kehl Golding

