



THE

June 2015

NETwork

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What can we do with burdens?

Give them to the Lord

As I have made it my habit this year, I am using the devotional book, "Prayer, Praise, and Promises" by Warren Wiersbe as a part of my daily quiet time. You can read these devotionals online at backtothebible.org

Here is what I read on June 1st and thought you might be encouraged by this as well. Dr. Wiersbe wrote:

GIVE IT BACK

Read [Psalm 55:22-23](#)

"Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved" (v. 22). This promise tells us that Christians do have burdens. David is not talking about concern for others, although it's good to bear one another's burdens. Instead, he means the burdens that the Lord allows each one of us to bear. One translation reads, "Cast what he has given thee upon the Lord."

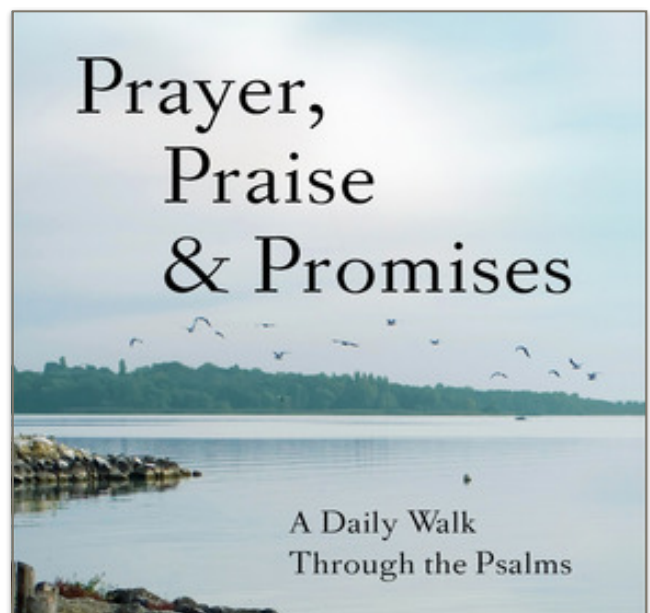
Burdens are not accidents but appointments. The burdens you have in your life today are what God has ordained for you--unless they are the result of your own rebellious sin against Him. Burdens help us grow; they help us exercise the muscles of our faith. They teach us how to trust God and live a day at a time.

This promise also tells us that we can cast these burdens on the Lord. Peter said, "Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (I Pet. 5:7). The Lord gives us the burden, and then He says, "Now give that burden back to Me. But don't stop there; give Me yourself as well." If we try to give Him our burdens without giving Him ourselves, He really can't help us. It's like stepping onto an elevator with many heavy packages and failing to put them down on the floor until you reach your destination. Let the elevator carry both you and your packages.

Notice that the verse doesn't say He'll keep you from problems all the time. He's going to use problems to build your character. But he'll make sure the righteous will not be moved. Cast your burden on the Lord. Let Him sustain you today.

Giving your burden to God is an act of faith. But giving yourself to Him and letting Him use that burden to help you grow is taking an extra step of faith. He will invest that burden in building your character. Give your burdens to the Lord today.

Each day is filled with difficulties and trials which are really opportunities for God to do something wonderful in your life. Remember, "Burdens are not accidents but appointments."



Consider getting your own copy of this book. You will enjoy using it year after year!

STRAIGHT FROM MY HEART ...



Dr. & Mrs. Roy D. Mason, Jr.

June is a special month for our family because both Mary and I celebrate our birthdays in June. Mine on the second and Mary's on the twenty-sixth. Additionally we always plan a family vacation to Hilton Head Island for a couple of weeks in June.

Hardly a day goes by that one of our grandkids asks, "Is it time to go to the beach yet?" Their anticipation is exciting and it got me to thinking ...

We should always live with an attitude of **anticipation**. We should live expectantly for all that God is doing around us. Each day is a new adventure and we would do well to see it as such.

We should always live with an attitude of

"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples"

—John 13:35 NLT

awareness of the fact that we are on mission with Christ in His creation. Look for ways to share His love with others around you.

We should always live with an attitude of **appreciation**. God has been so very good to all of us and we must maintain our attitude of gratitude in everything we do.

We should always live with an attitude of **affirmation**. So much of the world is cloaked and covered in negativity which ultimately leads to chaos and destruction. Let's agree together that today we will be busy in the affirmation business.

Now, until Jesus returns, I remain

Yours, in the fulfilling of the Great Commission,



REMEMBER TO PRAY

For my health

Last month, on Memorial Day, I had a bit of a scare with my health. At about 10 in the morning I collapsed on the floor as the result of a drastic drop in my blood sugar levels. I simply remember the paramedics standing over me and getting me on a stretcher and loading me into the ambulance. After a night in the hospital we learned that my insulin dosage needed to be cut in half and that despite the scare, my "numbers" are all very good.

For the provisions for our team in Ghana.

There continue to be increased needs for our nationals in country. Presently we are seeking to provide another three pastors with the Field Ministry Equipment (3 wheeler, projector, DVD player, generator, and sound system) which will cost **\$3,000 each**. In addition to this we need to secure another ministry vehicle before the September project which will cost us **\$10,000**.

For the formulation of the next TEAM.

Our next project to Ghana will be in September and we are in the process of asking God to put together the exact people that He wants to be a part of this project. Several have expressed interest in this and we must certainly make sure that we are in agreement with God.

www.gemonline.org