

**A CHAIN OF PRAYER
ACROSS THE AGES: FORTY
CENTURIES OF PRAYER,
2000 B.C.-A.D. 1912**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9781760573959

A chain of prayer across the ages: forty centuries of prayer, 2000 B.C.-A.D. 1912 by Selina Fitzherbert Fox

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SELINA FITZHERBERT FOX

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FIRST EDITION . . . *January, 1913*
Reprinted . . . *March, 1913*
Reprinted . . . *May, 1913*

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FORTY CENTURIES OF PRAYER, 2000 B.C.—A.D. 1912

COMPILED AND ARRANGED FOR DAILY USE
BY SELINA FITZHERBERT FOX, M.D., B.S.

WITH INDEX OF SUBJECTS AND AUTHORS

TORONTO
BELL AND COCKBURN

DEC 19 1996

To those who in the past, have "cried unto the Lord,"
To those who in the present, "call upon the God of their fathers,"
To those who in the time to come, will pray to Him
"Who heareth us always,"

I DEDICATE THIS BOOK.



PREFACE

THIS collection of prayers was originally made with no thought further, than that of meeting a difficulty experienced in finding a book suited to the particular needs of morning and evening prayers in our own household. In consequence, however, of frequent requests to make the compilation more generally known, the idea of publication gradually developed.

The prayers have been gathered from widely different sources, and were often met with in the course of everyday reading or contributed by friends. They have consequently been, in some cases, most difficult to retrace, and in several instances it has proved impossible to determine their origin, though every effort has been made to give author and date to every one in the collection.

It has been no easy task to select the prayers from the large number at one's disposal, and were it not for the size of the book, they could well have been arranged for a year instead of for only six months. The primary object, that of making the book really useful in the home, has above all been kept in view; for this reason many old prayers, though of great interest and quaint in their language, have been omitted, and others retained which seemed more appropriate to the needs of our modern life. In this way numbers of different authors have of necessity been excluded, so that the book can in no way be called—nor indeed does it aim at being—a comprehensive anthology from all the available writers throughout the centuries.

The work of finding and verifying the source, together with the more difficult task of selection, has been lightened by the ever-ready and untiring help and sympathy of my friend, Mrs. William Graham, who throughout has done so much not only to guide my endeavours, but to facilitate the labour of research.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all who have in so many ways assisted me; my special thanks are due to the authors and publishers, who have so readily given me, not only their permission to use copyright material, but have also suggested possible sources from whence other prayers could be gleaned. The following is an alphabetical list of those who have so kindly helped me:—

Messrs. George Allen and Co., for prayers from "Before the Throne," by Rev. William Bellars. Messrs. H. R. Allenson, Ltd., for a prayer by Rev. J. R. Miller, from "Great Souls at Prayer," by Mrs. Mary Tileston. The Association for Promoting Christian Knowledge, Dublin, for prayers from "Family Prayers of the Church of Ireland." Messrs. Bell and Sons, for prayers from "A Book of Family Prayer," by Rev. Ernest Hawkins. The Church of

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England Zenana Missionary Society, for a prayer used by the Society. The Church Missionary Society, for prayers used by the Society. The Hon. Mrs. Gell, for prayers from "The Cloud of Witness," published by Mr. H. Frowde. Miss Georgina A. Gollock, for the prayer, "The Church's Approach to the Nations." General E. E. Goulaff, for prayers of Father John of the Russian Church, from "My Life in Christ," published by Messrs. Cassell and Co., Ltd. Rev. John Hunter, D.D., for prayers from "Devotional Services," published by Messrs. J. M. Dent and Co. Canon J. O. Johnston, for prayers from the Cuddesdon "Manual of Missionary Intercession." Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner and Co., for prayers from "A Collection of Prayers," by George Dawson. Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co., for prayers from "Private Prayers," by Rev. E. B. Pusey; "Family Prayers," by Rev. A. F. Thornhill; "The Treasury of Devotion"; "Manual of Prayers," by Rev. W. E. Scudamore; "Family Prayers," by Dean Goulburn; "Suggestions on Prayer," by Miss L. H. M. Soulsby; and "Private Prayers," by Bishop Ashton Oxenden. Messrs. Macmillan and Co., for prayers from "Prayers for Family Use," by Bishop Brooke Foss Westcott. Bishop Handley C. G. Moule, for the use of his prayers. Messrs. A. R. Mowbray and Co., for prayers from "Sursum Corda." The National Council of the Evangelical Free Churches, for prayers from "Yet Another Day," by Rev. J. H. Jowett. Messrs. Nisbet and Co., for prayers from "Readings for the Sick," by Rev. F. P. Wickham; "Prayers for Busy Homes," O. H. C.; "The Churchman's Book of Family Prayers," by Bishop Boyd Carpenter. Sir Isaac Pitman and Son, for prayers from "Prayers of Archbishop Benson." Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, for prayers by Miss Christina G. Rossetti; "Daily Services," by Rev. H. Stobart; "Prayers for Working Men," by Rev. H. W. Turner. Society of St. John the Evangelist, for prayers from "The Intercessory Manual," by Rev. R. M. Benson, published by Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co. Rev. A. F. Thornhill, for prayers from "Family Prayers," published by Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co. Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton and Co., for prayers from "Family Prayers," by Bishop Walsham How; "Household Prayers," by Rev. L. Tuttiert; "Words for the Weary," by Rev. E. H. Sharpe. Messrs. J. Whitaker and Sons, for prayers from "The Narrow Way." I must further acknowledge my indebtedness to the book of "Ancient Collects," by Dr. William Bright; to Canon Christopher Wordsworth, for his translation of St. Dunstan's "Kyria Rex Splendens"; and also to the Rev. Canon Girdlestone, for his kindness in giving me the approximate dates of the writers in the centuries B.C.

If, owing to the way in which the work was originally begun, any copyright may have been unknowingly infringed, I can only express my sincere regrets and apologies.

SELINA F. FOX.

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