

Notes on  
"The Renaissance of Prayer"  
by Samuel McComb, *Contemporary Review*, November 1922, page 628

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Analysis of Prayer from Modern Point of view:

"You pride yourself on being scientific: make this a matter of scientific experiment. Take a little time every day, and pray with what faith you can summon that the peace of God may enter your heart and that God may enter your heart and reveal his reality to you."<sup>1</sup>

Today men are seeking a genuinely spiritual basis for civilization.

"Prayer is a school of spiritual education."<sup>2</sup>

"Prayer ... reminds us," says Amiel, "of pardon and duty." "Thou art loved—love; thou hast received—give; thou must die—labor whilst thou canst; overcome anger by kindness; overcome evil with good."<sup>3</sup>

"Apart from such a spirit, even diplomatists and jurists acknowledge that no device, no strategic skill of political genius, will avail to give us the new world order for which we long. This order must be built on a transvaluation of values, on a frank renunciation of materialism in whatever guise it may offer itself, on the unreserved

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<sup>1</sup> Samuel McComb, "The Renaissance of Prayer," *Contemporary Review*, November, 1922, p. 628.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel McComb, "The Renaissance of Prayer," *Contemporary Review*, November, 1922, p. 628.

<sup>3</sup> Henri Frederic Amiel, *The Journal Intime of Henri-Frederic Amiel*, 1885, p. 411.

surrender to spiritual ideals as supreme in all the relations of the peoples. Among the forces pledged to the achievement of this profound transformation we may feel sure that prayer, purged of its traditional and external elements, and interpreted to mean the influx of spiritual grace from a world beyond, will more and more vindicate itself as at once in harmony with reason, and with the deepest demands of man's ethical nature."<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Samuel McComb, "The Renaissance of Prayer," *Contemporary Review*, November, 1922, p. 628.