

MORNING WATCH - SEVENTEETH DAY**Andrew Murray:**

"My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning. O Lord, in the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee and will look up." (Ps. v. 3.)

David here gives expression to his intention that the morning shall continue to be the time when he will make his voice heard before God, and also to his confidence that God will, in reality, hearken to his voice. The morning is to be his time of exercise in prayer, and answer to prayer. Do thou, too, take these words and utter them in full confidence before God: "My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning."

"In the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee." This word "direct" is used of setting in order or preparing the dishes for a table (Exod. xl. 4), or it is the word for the offering upon an altar. Don't be in a hurry to kneel down and pray because you know how to compose a prayer. First "prepare to meet thy God." Sit down quietly for a few moments to form a right conception of God in His great Holiness. Call to mind with what fear and awe, with what truth and sincerity, and entire submission and obedience, it befits you to approach Him. Ask yourself if you have set your heart in order upon the altar, just as the offering was set in order upon the wood before it could be burnt. Say continually, "In the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee."

" And look up" when you pray; do not neglect to look for God and His answer-to keep the watch of the Lord. This is the link between the morning prayer and the life of the day. "I wait upon Thee all the day," is the continuation and the blessing of intercourse with God in the morning. Therefore will I often say: "My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, Oh Lord, in the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee, and will look up."