

Matthew 6:11-12

NRSV: "Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

KJV: "Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

The Message: "Keep us alive with three square meals. Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others."

Aramaic version from "Prayers of the Cosmos":

"Grant what we need each day in bread and insight; substance for the call of growing life. Erase the inner marks our failures make, just as we scrub our hearts of others' faults."

Hammurabi Code (from Babylon, 12th Century BCE)

"If any one fail to meet a claim for debt, and sell himself, his wife, his son, and daughter for money or give them away to forced labor: they shall work for three years in the house of the man who bought them, or the proprietor, and in the fourth year they shall be set free."

(No matter how great the unpaid debt, the resulting slavery and forced labor could only last for three full years.)