



## **My Utmost for His Highest: An Updated Edition in Today's Language**

*Oswald Chambers, James Reimann (Revision), Charles F. Stanley (Foreword)*

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This edition of Oswald Chambers' golden book combines all of the features of the updated language edition while preserving the meaning and style of the author. This bestselling devotional includes complete subject and Scripture indexes along with 366 timeless, inspirational devotions in a classic but affordable hardcover binding. Ideal for both the Chambers devotee and for gift-giving.

## **My Utmost for His Highest: An Updated Edition in Today's Language Details**

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## From Reader Review My Utmost for His Highest: An Updated Edition in Today's Language for online ebook

### Susanne says

If Christians are to read only one book \*ever\* on Christian formation, this book is the one to read. The wisdom of Oswald Chambers' famed *My Utmost for His Highest* is spread out over 365 daily readings. I started this journey on the first day of 2016 and finished it today, the final day.

Written in 1935, the language is a bit archaic, but at the same time, the old-fashioned words and wordings raises this book out of the ordinary into the extraordinary. It's an otherworldly book--there's no other way to describe it.

I've read parts of this book over the years, but never cover-to-cover, on a daily basis throughout the entire year. It's inspiring and convicting at the same time. Oswald pulls no punches, and there were definitely times when I felt a bit bruised. (And more than a bit at times!) But that's a good thing. Oswald rips through any pretensions to complacency, and while it's an uncomfortable journey at times, it's definitely a necessary one.

How else can we put forth our utmost for God's highest?

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### Sheryl Tribble says

This book makes me *so crazy*. He'll say something like, "An average view of the Christian life is that it means deliverance from trouble. It is deliverance in trouble, which is very different." (August 2) And I'll say, "Yes, and Amen." Then, two paragraphs later, he'll say, "God does not give us overcoming life; He gives us life as we over come." And I'll say, "What? No." Jesus HAS (past tense) overcome the world -- John 16:33. We don't overcome the world so much as live in that belief -- 1 John 5:4&5. The work is done, we're not doing it.

On the upside, when Chambers missteps, it's just about always in one of two directions; he expects the Christian to be perfect in obedience, and he downplays Christian community. In other words, he has a bad habit of occasionally putting the Christian individual ahead of God and ahead of others! Unfortunately, what this means is that he takes the focus off of God and puts it on self, which is not what I'm looking for in a devotional.

Oswald says, "God does not give us overcoming life; He gives us life as we overcome. When the inspiration of God comes, and He says, "Arise from the dead," we have to get up; God does not lift us up." (Feb 16) But Paul says we are "raised up *with Christ*" (Colossians 3:1). Too often, Chambers demands that we perform; the Bible says the work has been done, and our job is to live within that fact. Oswald did not, I trust, believe that we can earn our salvation, but he still liked the idea that man can do good works for God.

But anything we can do *for* God, comes *from* God -- "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). While Christians should demonstrate these qualities, we cannot generate them, so when Oswald encourages people to produce these qualities, he can turn one's attention off of God and onto self.

I would definitely not recommend this book for a new Christian, or for one who struggles with legalism, or who tends to believe in the whole "earn your way to heaven" approach. And I wouldn't use it as my daily devotional, because too often it does not direct the reader to Christ but rather pushes the reader toward good behavior, a very different goal. I guess I might recommend it to someone who is solidly grounded in grace, but is looking for a push in the performance department, which is kind of why I'm sticking with it I suppose. And I do think Chambers has some good things to say. But if someone asked, I'd probably recommend Piper's *Desiring God* first.

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### **Clay Winters says**

Rarely do I come across a daily devotional which offers the wisdom and insight that *My Utmost* provides. Coming from an author who died early into the 20th century, the journal entries seem to jump off the pages in overall relevance and knowledge that is current to today's worldly affairs. Oswald Chambers was gifted with extracting the essence of biblical principles and condensing them into potent, thought-provoking, and life-changing devotions. They say it takes close to 3 weeks (or 21 days) to develop a habit. With all the godly teachings and accurate scriptural references bursting from the seems, it's hard to miss even one day once you dive into the middle of this gospel-ridden commentary. Do your spiritual life a favor and get started today, I guarantee you'll be surprised as to the reoccurring pattern that you stumble across exactly what you needed for that day.

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### **David Johnston says**

The copy of *My Utmost for His Highest* that I have was originally given to my son as a graduation present by the youth pastor of our Church. He left home, went to college, got married and now has a son of his own. Oswald Chamber's classic sat on our shelf for many years, unread, unappreciated and gathering dust beside an equally neglected copy of the *Complete Works of Shakespeare*. It was only a few months ago when I was going down to visit him and his lovely wife and the uber grandson that I ran across MUHH again and decided to see if he wanted it back. As a result I started reading it and was glad when my son said he did not want it back.

I am not sure I would give this book to teen agers. It is an acquired taste and requires a bit of effort to appreciate, but the diligent reader is more than compensated for the effort. As a result of reading MUHH, I was introduced to the life and times of Oswald Chambers and his amazing ministry and his amazing and selfless stenographer wife, Biddy. Biddy is the one who is responsible for the compilation and publication of MUHH and all of Chambers over fifty published works.

I will never be finished reading MUHH because I am always dipping into it and every time I do, I always find a fresh insight about what it means to be a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. In case someone may not know, MUHH is a daily devotional that Biddy culled from her voluminous shorthand notes. All of Chamber's works (and his life) can be summed up in this phrase, "Jesus always, Jesus only."

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### **Arcyllin Arcilla says**

After finishing this year-long devotional, the depth of my faith has tremendously deepened. I have not yet found an equal to this material. This is worth going through again for the second, third, even fourth time!

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### **Mark Uncommon Valor says**

" Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free . . . " ( Galatians 5:1 ).

A spiritually-minded person will never come to you with the demand . . . " Believe this and that " ; a spiritually-minded person will demand that you align your life with the standards of Jesus. We are not asked to believe the Bible , but believe the One whom the Bible reveals (see John 5:39-40 ). We are called to present liberty for the conscience of others, not to bring them liberty for their thoughts and opinions. And if we ourselves are free with the liberty of Christ, others will be brought into that same liberty . . . the liberty that comes from realizing the absolute control and authority of Jesus Christ.

Always measure your life solely by the standards of Jesus. Submit yourself to His yoke, and His alone ; and always be careful never to place a yoke on others that is not of Jesus Christ. It takes God along time to get us to stop thinking that unless everyone sees things exactly as we do, they must be wrong. That is never God's view. There is only one true liberty . . . the liberty of Jesus at work in our conscience enabling us to do what is right.

Don't get impatient with others. Remember how God dealt with you . . . with patience and with gentleness. But never water down the truth of God. Let it have its way and never apologize for it. Jesus said, " Go . . . and make disciples . . . " ( Matthew 28:19 ), not, " Make converts to your own thoughts and opinions. "

by: Oswald Chambers- May 6

edited by: James Reimann

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### **Libby Baker Sweiger says**

This is the best devotional book I have ever read. Along with my bible it is going to remain a staple in my devotions from here on out. It is so well written and so real...guiding one to giving their all to God. I read it through, but I will keep it out to read one devotion each day along with my Bible reading, which is how I believe it is meant to be used.

Oswald Chambers' walk with God is so close and so real and down to earth he conveys this so well in this beautiful book, it brings home the point that God means to be very close to us, central in our lives and wants us to be very close in heart to Him.

I love this book because it brought me closer to my Lord and plan to keep on reading it daily.

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### **Debbie Phillips says**

So... how did I like this book??? I gave it 4 stars out of 5 and I sticky noted 48 pages out of the 365 days as my favorites! I would say that is pretty good. I did not give it 5 stars because I have to admit that some of the devotionals just didn't apply to me and some I was left dumbfounded by. Some of those that I didn't

understand my hubby was able to explain to me. I am thankful that we read this together or I probably would have quit before we finished, and there were some gems in those last months.

We started reading the book in January and finished it December 9th. We did not read every night because we read 2 devotionals on most of the nights we did read, and so had no trouble finishing the book this year.

This book is a daily devotional taken from the sermons and class lectures of Oswald Chambers. If you don't own the book and are interested you can read each of the devotionals one day at a time at this website...  
<http://utmost.org/>

Here are a couple little quotes to show you some of the gems this book has.

"In the midst of the awfulness, a touch comes and you know it is the right hand of Jesus Christ. The right hand not of restraint nor of correction nor of chastisement, but the right hand of the Everlasting Father. Whenever His hand is laid upon you, it is ineffable peace and comfort, the sense that "underneath are the everlasting arms," full of sustaining and comfort and strength." May 24

"His purpose is that I depend on Him and on His power now. If I can stay in the middle of the turmoil calm and unperplexed, that is the end of the purpose of God." July 28

"Do not look at someone else and say "Well, if he can have those views and prosper, why cannot I?" You have to walk in the light of the vision that has been given to you and not compare yourself with others or judge them, that is between them and God." Dec. 29

I did a post on this book on my blog... <http://debbiesdigest.blogspot.com/201...>  
you can go read that also if you are interested.

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### **Miriam says**

I read it when I can in the evening. This is not a typical mushy coffee table devotional, not at all. In fact I usually have to read the short entries three times to grasp its meaning. There is so much to chew on with practically every word written. And it is not the easy stuff either- no fluffy emotions. This is testing of faith! No more fluffy good feelings but true inspiration for a radical life of faith.

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### **Jes says**

This devotional has put things into perspective for me so many days in a row. Oswald has a way of wording things that really gets deep down inside of you!

I have given two copies of this devotional away as gifts and I am about to give my third....it's a great gift idea, because it's really neat to be able to discuss what this means to another individual seeking Christ...

Here is just one small taste of one cool exert:

Nov 30

"There is only one relationship that matters and that is your relationship to our LORD. Let everything else go, but maintain that at all costs, and GOD will fulfill his purpose for your life. One individual life may be of priceless value to GOD'S purposes, and yours MAY be that life!" -Oswald

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### **Brent McCulley says**

A masterpiece devotional writer, and excellent evangelist and teacher, Oswald Chambers has become near and dear to so many Christian families with the enduring "My Utmost for His Highest." Arguably the most popular classic devotional of all time, there is a reason why Oswald is read and beloved by so many saints around the world.

Each day is a new topic, with a specific scripture wherein Oswald not only leaves plenty of spiritual milk to drink, but also tons of spiritual meat to chew. Each sentence can be contemplated on forever, and each day's devotional is more than enough not only to grow in knowledge and grace, but to daily turn our affections to our blessed Lord Jesus Christ, the author of our faith.

I read Oswald every day in the morning, before I begin my day; each day Oswald reminds me the importance of picking up the cross, and the sacrifice that we must endure for the sake of gaining Christ. I plan to read this devotional throughout the rest of my life, and can't wait for the day that I can give it to my children.

-Brent McCulley

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### **Bill says**

- This book makes you look at yourself, think, and act.
- If you are typical, you will use this book every day for the rest of your life!
- No book, except the Bible, has influenced my walk with Christ at such a deep and maturing level.
- This book constantly reminds me that the ground of faith and experience is the person of Jesus Christ. The basis of faith is always Jesus Christ Himself.
  
- These daily readings have been selected from various sources; chiefly from the lectures given at the Bible Training College, Clapham, during the years 1911-1915; then from October 1915 to November 1917, from talks given night by night in the YMCA, Hut, Zeitoun, Egypt. In November 1917, Oswald Chambers entered into God's presence.
  
- A large portion of the readings have been chosen from the talks given during the Devotional Hour at the College; an hour which for many of the students marked an epoch in their life with God.

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### **Nathan Eilers says**

This was the best book I read in 2009, and I couldn't choose any other. This is a stellar book and an

especially good book of devotions. Chambers consistently and insistently reminds the reader of the powerful reality of the Redemption, and he bases all of what he writes on this one fundamental truth. The result of this is daily writings on the Christian walk that are permeated with power and hope.

*My Utmost* came recommended to me by everyone who had ever read it. Now I add my voice to the choir of people who cherish this book. I've used Chambers as inspiration for writing in my class, and he has been my masthead quote on my blog several times. I spent all of 2009 in Chambers; I finished the book on December 31. I know I'll return to it soon.

And now, one of hundreds of highlighted passages from my copy: "There is only one relationship that matters, and that is your personal relationship to a personal Redeemer and Lord. Let everything else go, but maintain that at all costs, and God will fulfill His purpose through your life. One individual life may be of priceless value to God's purposes, and yours may be that life."

This is a powerful, foundational, encouraging, challenging tour de force of a book that would benefit the life of every Christian. I can't recommend it enough.

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### **Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says**

In order to have written the most successful review for this book, I should have started with Day 1 and wrote something about each entry every day. Sadly, I didn't do that. So I'll just do my best to write a summary of my thoughts of this devotional over the year-long experience of reading it. I hope that any reader of this review finds that helpful.

Oswald Chambers is a man who definitely had an ongoing encounter with God. His thoughts tap into every aspect of the experience of following Christ and having communion with the Spirit of God. His words are at times an incredibly profound comfort to a broken heart. At other times, they are a prod to one's flagging determination to fight the good fight and continue that daily walk with God in a meaningful way. Other times, they convict the reader in the best way. The way that the Holy Spirit convicts a believer of complacency or willingness to settle for a life that merely pretends belief in God as opposed to a life-changing, ever-evolving relationship with God that affects every aspect of that person's life in the more meaningful ways. I do believe that God used Mr. Chambers powerfully in writing this devotional. I cannot count how many times I read an entry and I felt that God was talking directly to me. A person once said that we don't read the Bible, but the Bible reads us. I believe that Mr. Chambers was prompted by the Holy Spirit to write something that does exactly that. I found that questions I was struggling with that week were addressed so many times in the entries I read, and I saw the lightbulb go on inside my mind.

I would recommend this devotional to every believer in Jesus, and even to people who seek to know God in a deep way. I believe that the reader will feel touched deep inside and it will make them desire for more of God in their life. The good news is that God wants to walk with each and every one of us in that way and relate to us in a truly real way. God always rewards those who seek him. And "My Utmost for His Highest" is a good tool in that journey of discovering who God is and how intimately we can relate to him everyday. Definitely worth getting a copy of this and spending a year with Oswald Chambers.

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### **Rob says**

Going through this in a small group setting. I recommend this method so that more meat is in the lessons. There is much there but the way the general points are made may take some Scripture out of context or focus on one point that is not really the purpose.  
We are on 14 Jan...once a week study.

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