

## The Prayer of Example

- I. Introduction: Many call this the Lord's prayer, but it is actually a prayer of example rather than one the Lord prayed.
  - a. (**Matt 6:9-13**) "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."
    - i. Let us study it part by part
- II. "After this manner therefore pray ye"
  - a. Not "In these words"
  - b. This is an example
    - i. What to say
    - ii. How to say
- III. "Our Father which art in heaven."
  - a. Opening
    - i. Directing our attention to God, putting worldly cares behind and putting God in our forefront of our mind
  - b. Father
    - i. This recognizes the fatherhood of God
      - 1. Father by right of creation
        - a. (**Gen 1:1**) "In the beginning God created the Heaven and the earth."
      - 2. Father by right of preservation
        - a. (**Matt 6:25-30**) "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?"
      - 3. Father by right of redemption
        - a. (**John 3:16-17**) "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever

believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”

c. Heaven

i. The place of God’s throne

1. **(Isa 66:1)** “Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?”

ii. Our land of Promise

1. **(2 Cor 5:1)** “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”
2. **(John 14:1-4)** “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.”

d. Our Father? How?

- i. **(John 8:44)** “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”

ii. The Father of Sinners is Satan. How can sinners spiritually have God as their Father?

1. By being born again
2. **(John 3:3-5)** “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”

IV. “Hallowed be thy name”

a. Set the mind to Praise God

b. Hallowed

i. To Make Sanctified or Holy

c. This recognizes that God’s name must be reverend

- i. **(Ps 111:9)** “He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name.”

- ii. (**Heb 12:28**) “Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:”
  - d. Some not only fail to reverence God’s name, but they show disrespect in an outright manner by taking it in vain
    - i. (**Ex 20:7**) “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.”
- V. “Thy kingdom come”
  - a. (**Matt 16:18-19**) “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my **church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the **kingdom of heaven**: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
    - i. Kingdom of Heaven = Church
  - b. Thy kingdom come = Thy church come = Thy house come
    - i. (**Isa 2:2-3**) “And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the **Lord’s house** shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and **all nations shall flow unto it**. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”
  - c. Christ teaches the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven
    - i. (**Matt 10:5-7**) “Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
    - ii. (**Mark 9:1**) “Verily I say unto you, That there be **some of them that stand here**, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen **the kingdom of God come with power**.”
      - 1. The Kingdom came in the same generation as those that were there with Jesus.
  - d. The Kingdom came with power on the Day of Pentecost
    - i. (**Acts 2**)
  - e. Those that are members of the church are in this kingdom
    - i. (**Col 1:13**) “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:”
  - f. This part of the prayer recognizes the church.
    - i. Can’t pray for her to come – vain prayer (already here)
    - ii. We are to pray for her expansion
- VI. “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”
  - a. Must recognize that God’s will has priority over any man’s will
  - b. The example of Jesus

- i. **(John 5:30)** “I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.”
      - ii. **(Matt 26:39)** “And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”
    - c. **(Eccl 12:13)** “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”
      - i. This is our whole duty – Keep his commandments – His will (Submission)
      - ii. Show him that you can love someone else other than yourself – submit to his will
    - d. “On earth as it is in heaven”
      - i. We are to pray for God’s will to be done perfectly as it is done in heaven!
      - ii. What is God’s will for you – How does want you to conduct your life?
        - 1. Your Speech
        - 2. Your Service
        - 3. Your Contribution
        - 4. Your Actions
        - 5. Your Dedication
- VII. “Give us this day our daily bread”
- a. Ask for God to sustain us – Recognizes God as the provider and giver of material blessings
    - i. **(Matt 7:9-11)** “Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”
    - ii. **(James 1:17)** “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”
  - b. Recognizes man’s dependence upon God
    - i. **(Phil 4:19)** “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”
  - c. “Daily Bread” – This Day
    - i. Not worried about tomorrow
      - 1. **(Matt 6:31-34)** “Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow:

for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.”

- ii. Not concerned with getting Rich, just want to be sustained.
  - 1. (**Prov 30:8-9**) “Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.”

- iii. Be content

- 1. (**1 Tim 6:6-10**) “But godliness with contentment is great gain. **For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.** And having **food and raiment** let us be therewith **content**. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For **the love of money is the root of all evil:** which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

VIII. “And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors”

- a. This recognizes the reality of sin, the need of forgiveness from God, and the need of forgiving other.
- b. We need forgiveness from God
  - i. (**John 8:21**) “Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come.”
  - ii. (**Acts 8:22**) “Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.”
- c. We must forgive each other
  - i. (**Matt 6:14-15**) “For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”
  - ii. (**Col 3:13**) “Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.”
- d. If God forgives us as we forgive our debtors, then how many of us stand forgiven in his sight?

IX. “And lead us not into temptation”

- a. We recognize the reality of temptation
- b. God tempts no man
  - i. (**James 1:13-15**) “Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for **God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:** But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of **his own lust**, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”

- c. **(1 Cor 10:13)** “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but **God is faithful**, who will **not suffer** you to be **tempted** above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”
- X. “But deliver us from evil” – “the evil one” (ASV)
  - a. This recognizes Satan – work and influence – The reality of him
  - b. **(2 Cor 2:11)** “Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”
    - i. Do we know Satan’s devices – Spot them
  - c. **(Eph 6:11)** “Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”
  - d. **(James 4:7-8)** “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”
- XI. Conclusion
  - a. Our Father which art in heaven
    - i. Opening to set our minds on God our heavenly Father
  - b. Hallowed be thy name
    - i. Giving of Praise to God – Thanksgiving
  - c. Thy Kingdom come
    - i. Prayer for the church – Her growth
  - d. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven
    - i. Submission to God – acceptance of his will
  - e. Give us this day our daily bread
    - i. Asking God to bless us with our physical needs
  - f. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
    - i. Realizing our spiritual imperfections and asking God to forgive
  - g. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
    - i. Realizing temptation and Satan are real and our need for God to strengthen and help us
  - h. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
    - i. Closing Praise to God – Recognizing he has the power to answer our requests

## XII. Invitation

- a. If you are a sinner
  - i. **(John 9:31)** “Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.”
  - ii. **(Isa 59:1-2)** “Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”
    1. You don't have the privilege of going to God in prayer because of your sins.
- b. You must get rid of your sins – only accomplished through God's Only begotten Son – Jesus Christ
  - i. **(Rom 3:24-25)** “Being justified freely by his **grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation **through faith in his blood**, to declare his **righteousness** for the **remission of sins** that are past, through the forbearance of God;”
  - ii. **(Heb 5:9)** “And being made perfect, he became the **author of eternal salvation** unto all them **that obey him;**”
    1. Must obey him to receive this salvation
- c. What does he command?
  - i. **(Mark 16:16) (Acts 2:38)**