

THE MOUNT MESSAGE: THE LORD'S PRAYER (LESSON 11)

THE EXPERIENCE BIBLE STUDY

REV. JOHN F. KENNEY

OCTOBER 12, 2021



THE PRAYER

"This, then, is how **you** should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom **come**, your will **be done**, on earth as it is in heaven. **Give** us today our daily bread. And **forgive us** our debts **as we also have** forgiven our debtors. And **lead** us not into temptation, but **deliver** us from the evil one."

(Matthew 6:9-13 NIV)



THE BREAKDOWN

The word "Father" expresses the intimate personal relation of Jesus to God. "Father" was ***not a general term*** for the deity, but was first Jesus' word for his own relation to God.

"Father" for Jesus means the one who ***loves, forgives and knows how to give good gifts to his children***. Even though ***feminine images*** also express the nature of God, the centrality of the father image is Matthew's theological basis.

Let's Break It Down (vs.9b-10)

Three "Thou" Petitions:

1. The prayer is **God-centered**, therefore, it begins with the honor of God as God. The first three petitions are **NOT separate items** but they are for the eschatological event in which God's name will be hallowed (honored), God's kingdom will come & the will of God will be done.
2. "**Hallowed be your name**" (NIV); "**May your name be kept holy**" (NLT) represented the reality and presence of the person. **The petition is that God will be honored as God, the Holy One.** It preserves the holiness of God and prays for it to be acknowledged by all.

Verse 9b-10 (cont.)

3. "*Your kingdom come*" represents not only a future reality at the end of the world, but a present experience. The prayer acknowledges that God is God and that God is finally responsible for bringing in God's rule. However, one praying this prayer must commit one's own will and action to fulfilling the will of God in the present.

4. "*Your will be done*" reflects the will of God being done through the involvement of creation. The kingdom image is one of *(re)uniting, or bringing*, the rebellious earth back under the rightful sovereignty of the Creator. *Heaven/earth reflects the already/not-yet nature of the kingdom.*

Let's Break It Down (vs.11-13)

Three "We" Petitions:

1. "**Bread**" - Symbolizes eschatological blessedness, therefore, the prayer is for the end-time blessing of the messianic banquet, when all God's people will sit down together, with enough food for all.
2. Bread is understood as a need for survival for the poor & hungry, thus, the prayer reflects Jesus' own solidarity with the poor and his concern for them.
3. The prayer longs for the coming of God's kingdom, when there will be bread for all, and prays *specifically* for present physical needs. ***By praying this prayer, the church unites with the hungry and poor and are ready to share with those who have not.***

Verse 11-13 (cont.)

Petition #2: DEBTS

1. ***Jesus assumes that everyone coming before the Holy One is a guilty person in need of God's forgiveness.*** Sin is viewed as a debt owed to God – a debt one cannot repay. In confidence the disciple is taught to ask for God's forgiveness with both present/future implications.
2. Praying for God's forgiveness is unthinkable for the person who is intentionally an unforgiving person because God's forgiveness is unconditional. ***Human action and divine action are not alternatives as it relates to the Lord's Prayer.***

Verses 11-13 (cont.)

Petition #3: TEMPTATION

1. ***Jesus instructs the disciple to pray that God will not bring them into the time of testing that was associated with apocalyptic thought.*** The pervasive thought was that just before God's final victory, the power of evil will intensify and the people of God will endure tribulation and persecution.
2. The ***"evil one"*** is not to be interpreted as abstract evil, but rather ***the disciples should view "ordinary" testings as threats to their faith.***

UPCOMING



PURPLE REIGN SUNDAY
OCTOBER 31 **2021**
Domestic Violence Awareness
11AM



THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH | 1214 Victoria Blvd Hampton, VA 23661
www.thirdbaptisthampton.org



THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH
invites you to
Hallelujah Night
SUNDAY
OCTOBER 31ST
6 PM - 7:30PM

Fellowship,
Food,
Family,
& FUN

Truck or Treat



1214 Victoria Blvd | Hampton, VA 23661

Let's Pray!

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. In Jesus name, Amen."