

THE LORD'S PRAYER - Part III The Power of Prayer

Text: Matthew 6:10

Key Word: Prayer

Key Thought: The Prayer of the Righteous Are Powerful Prayers Which Will Accomplish Much

Wouldn't it be wonderful if God's will was fully realized through His Church on this earth as His will is completely fulfilled in heaven? Is this a dream or is it really a possibility? I'm sure that there are many perspectives on this issue. This part of the Lord's prayer has the potential of causing a major change of focus in our beliefs and practices.

One thing we must realize is what is being suggested by this phrase. In the Hebrew style of writing there was what was known as PARALLELISM. They tended to say things twice to bring out the full meaning of what they were saying. Examples of this abound in Scripture such as,

"The LORD is my shepherd - I shall not want."

Psalm 23:1

"God is our refuge - a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 46:1

When we understand this style of writing we can see that Jesus was essentially saying,

"The kingdom of God is a society upon earth where God's will is as perfectly done as it is in heaven."

The kingdom of God is used in three tenses throughout the Bible. It first of all appears in the **PAST TENSE**.

"I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 8:11

“There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out.”

Luke 13:28

Secondly, it appears in the **PRESENT TENSE**.

“the time has come he said. ‘The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!’”

Mark 1:15

“Once having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, ‘The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is within you.’”

Luke 17:21

Thirdly, the kingdom of God is presented in the **FUTURE TENSE**.

“I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

Matthew 26:29

“The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said, The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ (Messiah), and he will reign for ever and ever.”

Revelation 11:15

The kingdom of God is past, present and future at the same time. Any person who at anytime throughout history did the will of God was within God’s kingdom; anyone whom today does the will of God is within God’s kingdom; and the future holds a time when God’s desires will be perfectly and universally kept. This is what is often referred to as the consummation of the Kingdom and it is something which we should all pray towards.

The kingdom of God is large enough to encompass all of us and yet small enough to be personal to each and everyone included in it. The kingdom of God demands our will, heart and life.

But what does all this have to do with prayer? I believe that it has everything to do with prayer. In fact, once this principle is understood and practised, we will see a notable **increase in the Power of Prayer**. Jesus was giving His disciples the key to effective prayer.

James reinforced this truth when he wrote,

“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man, availeth much.” KJV

“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” NIV

James 5:16

Jesus addressed the crowds that followed him by saying that they needed to be different from the Pharisees if they wanted to be both heard and rewarded by their heavenly Father.

“Be careful not to do your ‘acts of righteousness’ before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 6:1

The key to bringing heaven’s blessings down to earth is a proper standing with God, **NOT** the eloquence of our words. **A righteous lifestyle will cause heaven’s messengers of grace to swiftly respond much more than the persuasive words.** Once we apply this truth to our daily lives, our churches will become much more powerful in prayer. When we combine a righteous pray-er with a righteous receiver of prayer, we will see heaven’s will be brought to earth.

We have all heard of people accusing God for their pain and agony as well as for all the death and destruction that takes place. We must realize that this is not the way God wants it to be. The proof of it is that God created this world without all these problems. The sin of Adam and Eve changed this righteous world into a place of pain, sorrow and trouble. Jesus came to earth and showed what could happen when He as the righteous One steps into the problems of our lives.

Jesus allowed the will of His Heavenly Father to be displayed for all to see. He was able to fulfill this verse of Scripture.

“your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Matthew 6:10

This truth must be understood and practice before we move onto the next verse of requesting our daily bread. God will honour His Word which is never some shrewd interpretation which appeals to the flesh of man. God is not manipulated by crafty hypocrites.

“I was young and now I am old yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.”

Psalms 37:25

Jesus walked so perfectly in the will of His Father that He could ask for anything He wanted and receive it. He never asked for anything outside of His Father’s will. This is the reason why His prayers were so effective. No disease; no death; no destruction could stand against Him.

God truly wants this same pattern to follow His Church. We should be able to exercise His will because of our close walk with Him. This is where certain verses of Scripture tend to make sense. Jesus made some astounding statements to His disciples before leaving this earth.

*“And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.
14. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.”*

John 14:13,14

Those who have surrendered themselves to their heavenly Father and reverence Him in all they do, will be able to understand His perfect will and desire to see it come to pass with all their heart. They will also be given the opportunities to express His will while on this earth.

This truth is also NOT just limited to those who are mature saints. It is available to anyone who will sincerely desire to fulfill God’s will in their lives.

“Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’”

Matthew 18:14

From this we see that God recognizes the humbleness of little children to be of great worth in receiving His blessings.

*“And he said: I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
4. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”*

Matthew 18:3,4

“Prayer is not overcoming God’s reluctance, it is laying hold of His highest willingness.”

Archbishop Trench

Some very practical ways of becoming more effective in your prayers to love one another with a fervent heart; speak well of others even when they do us wrong; be kind and compassionate; be faithful in church attendance and tithing; share your faith with others as God leads; share your wealth with those less fortunate; let your speech be in moderation.

All of these and a thousand others are the way to bring the kingdom of God from heaven to earth. It is knowing the will of God and then doing it with all our heart.

C:/My Documents/WPWin(X7)/Sermons.2018/Prayer-Lord’s/matt 6_10.wpd

Date: Mar 11/18

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: All of Me - G

THE LORD'S PRAYER - Part III The Power of Prayer

Text: Matthew 6:10

Key Word: Prayer

Key Thought: The Prayer of the Righteous Are Powerful Prayers Which Will Accomplish Much

Wouldn't it be wonderful if God's will was fully realized through His Church on this earth as His will is completely fulfilled in heaven?

"The LORD is my shepherd - I shall not want."

Psalm 23:1

"God is our refuge - a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 46:1

The kingdom of God is used in three tenses throughout the Bible. It first of all appears in the PAST TENSE. - **Matthew 8:11; Luke 13:28**
Secondly, it appears in the **PRESENT TENSE** - **Mark 1:15; Luke 17:21**
Thirdly, the kingdom of God is presented in the **FUTURE TENSE** - **Matthew 26:29; Revelation 11:15**

The kingdom of God is past, present and future at the same time. Any person who at anytime throughout history did the will of God was within God's kingdom; anyone whom today does the will of God is within God's kingdom; and the future holds a time when God's desires will be perfectly and universally kept. This is what is often referred to as the consummation of the Kingdom and it is something which we should all pray towards.

But what does all this have to do with prayer?

James 5:16; Matthew 6:1; Matthew 6:10; Psalm 37:25

Jesus made some astounding statements to His disciples before leaving this earth.

John 14:13,14; Matthew 18:14; Matthew 18:3,4