

September 15, 2019

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“Your Will Be Done”

Matthew 6:10

While we dare not think we comprehend the depth of anguish Jesus felt as his sacrificial death for our sin approached, we can fully understand this: His greatest desire over any and all other desires is the accomplishment of the Father’s will. Jesus prayed exactly the way he instructed his followers to pray.

I. The REALM of our prayer concerns.

A. It is where we now live, “ON EARTH”.

B. This is in acknowledgment of another reality, HEAVEN.

II. A request for God’s RULE here and now.

A. Two ASPECTS of God’s Kingdom.

B. What we are ASKING FOR.

III. A request for God’s WILL here and now.

A. This does not mean we HIDE or DENY “our will”.

B. It does mean we ACCEPT and SUBMIT to God’s will.

A desire for God’s rule and God’s will is the result of faith.

Those who have come to know the depth and extent of God’s love through faith in Jesus Christ readily accept that God’s rule is good, and his will is all-around best, in every way. We find in God a refuge, and rest as we trust in our good Father.



The concept of the kingdom of God is simple in one sense, as the sovereign rule of God. Yet it is complex in that we experience life on earth

where it *seems* his rule is largely ignored. In what sense did the presence of Jesus mean, during his earthly ministry, “the

kingdom of God” had come near (Luke 10:9-11; 11:20)? What things did King Jesus do in his ministry that will be ultimately fulfilled when the Kingdom finally and fully comes to earth (see, for example, Revelation 21:4)?

For Further Study, Thought, and Discussion:

1. Read Psalm 145, a reflection on the universal rule of God the King.

--Where do you see reference to his present reign?

--Where do you see indications of something that is a future, not present, reality?

--How is v. 13 an affirmation of God’s universal kingdom?

2. Read 2 Kings 20:1-19, the account of Hezekiah’s prayer for healing, God’s answer, and the events that followed.

--How did answering Hezekiah’s prayer with healing factor into future judgment God would bring on his disobedient nation (20:12-18 and 21:10-15)?

--Is it significant that Manasseh was born during this extended period of Hezekiah’s life? What kind of king was he as Hezekiah’s successor?

--Was the healing a good thing for Hezekiah? Do you think he would do it again? Was it good for the nation? For the plans God had in the big picture?

--What would it be like to have God say to you, “I will add fifteen years to your life”? How would that impact the way you lived? Would there be a down side to having this information?

3. Paul experienced a painful condition he called a “thorn in the flesh” (ever had one of those? What is it like...what do you think Paul was experiencing?)

--What was “the will of Paul” regarding the thorn?

--What was the will of the Lord, indicated by his answer in v. 9?

--How did Paul respond when God essentially said to his request, “no, I have a different plan”?

--Are there times when you have felt God was not hearing and answering your prayer? Is it possible he had different plans for you? Do you believe God’s will is better

than your will, so that even when your request is not answered as you want, you can rest at peace and content? Review Philippians 4:10-13.

NEXT WEEK: Our Daily Bread, Matthew 6:11-13