



THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

This is part 5 of the PrayER – Learning From Jesus How To Pray sermon series

SUMMARY

God knew that as we make our way through life that there would be certain elements and circumstances that would come into our life that were simply greater than we are. His solution to the problems of our life was to make Himself and His resources available to His people. The means by which we can tap into the presence, the provisions, and the power of God is prayer, and yet, most of prayer lives are struggling to show any signs of life. In this series of thoughts, we are taking our prayer life to the emergency where we will learn from the Great Physician how to pray.

REVIEW

In this study, we're journeying through the model prayer and we're discovering how to pray. So far, we've considered the following:

We looked at the phrase "...Our Father which art in Heaven..." and we found that when we pray, we should pray according to our **ADOPTION**, according to our Father's **AUTHORITY**, and according to a right **AFFECTION**.

We looked at the phrase "...Hallowed be thy name...." and we found that our prayers should consist of two parts: the **VERTICLE** part (our relationship with God) and the **HORIZONTAL part** (our relationship with the world around us). Prayer is more than just a way for us to **GET**

SOMETHING FROM GOD; prayer is a way for us to **GIVE SOMETHING TO GOD**. We give God glory when we recognize the holiness of God when we enter into His presence.

We looked at the phrase “...*Thy kingdom come...*” and we found that it is an expression of the heart that desires for the **WORD** of God and the **WORK** of God to become a reality.

MESSAGE

Matthew 6:9-15 says, “*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. 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.*”

If you’re in the habit of marking things in the Word of God, I’d like to draw your attention to verse 10 where the Bible says, “...*Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*”

For a few moments, I’d like to consider this thought: **THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.**

As we come to the next section of this model prayer, we come to a **KNOWN** portion of this prayer, but perhaps the most neglected portion of this prayer. I remind you that the first part of our prayer is designed to elevate our focus from that which is **SELFISH** to that which is **SPIRITUAL**. What we need to understand is that the spiritual side of prayer requires our **SURRENDER**. The reality is that there is nothing that I **WANT** that is more important than the **WILL** of God – NOTHING!

When we consider the life of Jesus, it should not come as a surprise that Jesus included the will of God in His teaching on prayer because the will of God the Father was His highest purpose and His greatest desire. His Father’s **PLAN** was His greatest **PRIORITY**.

Hebrews 10:7 says, “*Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.*”

Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus made it very clear that what He said, where He went, and what He did was in complete surrender and obedience to the will of His Father.

In John 6:38, Jesus said, “*For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.*”

In John 8:27-29, Jesus said, “...*When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.*”

Jesus didn't say or do whatever He wanted to do. Jesus operated every moment of every day in complete obedience to the will of His Father.

If His Father wanted Him to walk on the water, then Jesus walked on the water.

If His Father wanted Him to touch a leper, then Jesus touched a leper.

If His Father wanted Him to forgive a woman caught in adultery, then Jesus forgave a woman caught in adultery.

If His Father wanted Him to wash the disciple's feet, then Jesus washed the disciples' feet.

If His Father wanted Him to be crucified on the cross of Calvary, then Jesus willingly laid down His life on the cross of Calvary.

The words that Jesus said and the works that Jesus did always aligned perfectly with the deepest desires of His father. As a matter of fact, that's what that little word *will* means – “an individual's deepest desire.” Our greatest responsibility is to follow our greatest example.

Jesus said, in John 14:12, *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”*

I might not be able to walk on water, I might not be able to turn water into wine, and I might not be able to bring the dead back to life, but I can surrender to whatever God's will is for my life. That's what Jesus did and it's what we should do.

The Apostle Paul said it this way in Romans 12:1-2: *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”*

It was King David, in Psalm 40:8 who said, *“I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.”*

I want to point out that our key text (Matthew 6:9) makes two very clear distinctions: there is the distinction of **PASSION** and there is the distinction of **PLACE**.

Now there is obviously a big difference between that of Heaven and that of earth. Heaven is a reference to the place where God dwells and it is a place where every inhabitant listens to the Word of God and where every inhabitant obeys the will of God.

Psalm 103:19-20 says, *“The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.”*

There isn't a word of God spoken in Heaven that goes unheard and there isn't a command that is given in Heaven that goes undone. Regardless of the instruction or command, God's will is done immediately without question, God's will is done passionately and with priority, and God's will is done completely.

Earth isn't always that way. Sadly, I'm not always that way. The reality is that there are many that **REFUSE** to do the will of God, there are many that are **RELUCTANT** to do the will of God, and there are many that **STOP** doing the will of God before it is complete.

This is where the second distinction comes in. The truth is that our will doesn't always match God's will, and yet, Christian maturity is learning to surrender my will for His. Isn't that exactly what Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane when He prayed this exact portion of this prayer?

Luke 22:42 says, "Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."

As I studied this particular portion, I found person after person that simply connected the will of God on earth to the kingdom of God on earth. While the will of God will absolutely be the norm during the Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ, the will of God should be the absolute reality of my day-to-day life. Yes Lord, should be our ready response.

1 Peter 4:1-2 says, "Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God."

Now, how many understand that in our flesh that isn't always easy. Sometimes the will of God doesn't make sense to us, sometimes the will of God is difficult and demands much from us, and sometimes the will of God means our delay.

One of the things that made Paul's ministry so effective was the fact that he learned to surrender to the will of God. When God said "No," Paul said, "Okay," and when God said "Go," Paul said, "Yes, Lord."

1 John 2:15-17 says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."