

Title: The Lord's Prayer: Hallowed be Your Name

Passage: Matthew 6:9

Introduction:

Prayer

- Our fellowship in the Lord Jesus Christ makes its principal means through praying.
- People who know their God are people who pray.
- Prayer discloses much about us - it reveals our priorities, our understanding of God, and our beliefs. Listen carefully to our prayers.
- "What a man is on his knees before God, that he is, nothing more." (Robert Murray)

Passage: Matthew 6:9-13

Pray then like this:

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day 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 evil. [And Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]

Brief Review

Our Father

- perfect, powerful, protecting, providing, compassionate, pardoning, patient, present
- See Luke 15 (Parable of Prodigal Son)

John 14:23

Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make *our home with him*."

- Coming to God in trust and intimacy as a child comes to his/her father.

in heaven

- Coming to God with deepest reverence and awe
- His character is glorious - infinite, holy, sovereign, and transcendent

"Hallowed be Your name."

- in the Greek construction, this is a petition: "may Your name be hallowed" / "cause Your name be hallowed"
 - Not a statement or proclamation

Overview: 4 Questions

What is meant by "hallowed"?

What is signified by the phrase "hallowed be Your name"?

What is the practicality aspect of the phrase?

Why does this petition come first?

I. What is meant by “Hallowed”?

- Etymology relates back “to cut” or “to separate”
- “Set apart for a sacred use”
 - Ex: Arlington Cemetary referred to as “hallowed ground”
- “Hallowed by Your Name”
 - may God’s name be set apart in people’s hearts as the most beautiful reality that it is
 - Sanctify and make holy Your name in the lips and lives of Your people and in those who don’t know you

II. What is the significance of the phrase “Hallowed be Your name”?

- Set apart for special use because His name reflects Him.
- Set before us all that is God (His glory, attributes, character, essence)
 - Name = represents His character, purposes, and will

Ezekiel 20:9

But I acted for the sake of my name, that it should not be profaned in the sight of the nations among whom they lived, in whose sight I made myself known to them in bringing them out of the land of Egypt.

Ezekiel 36:21

But I had concern for my holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations to which they came.

Psalms 115:1

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

Why such great weight in God’s name?

- Name brings to mind one’s reputation
 - Ex: What do you think when hear “Billy Graham” vs. “Adolf Hitler”

Exodus 20:7

“You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

- Do not use God’s name that is inconsistent with His purposes
- Do not trivialize God’s name (“O my God”)

III. What does it look like to “Hallowed by Your name”?

- We see and use every opportunity to be part of God’s answer to that prayer

How? By praying:

A. That God’s name be sanctified in the Church (be faithful)

- that God's name be seen in every nation and everywhere through the church.
- Every Christian is adopted into God's family; therefore, bears His name
 - Which bears responsibility and privileges
- Contrast: see much in Church that does not honor Him.

B. That God's name be hallowed among the nations (be fruitful)

- Evangelistic petition: that people would come to faith in Jesus Christ

John 17:20-21

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

Revelation 5:9-10

And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God

from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

C. That God's name be hallowed in my life

- do whatever it takes for God to be magnified and glorified in my name
 - Thoughts
 - Words
 - Actions
- that God's name be reflected accurately as others see me
- Contrast: living in disobedience does not live with Jesus as lord.

Psalms 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

IV. Why is this petition first?

- it addresses our relationship to God and our understanding of God.
- Compare: all subsequent petitions in the Lord's Prayer relate back to our understanding of God.
 - First three about God, last 4 about us

V. Application Points

A. Reverence God's name continually

- make a lifestyle and conviction to revere God's name
- Continually not just on Sunday's but everyday and every moment.

- Make your life's purpose to honor God

Psalms 29:2

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

B. Represent God's name clearly

- both in public and in private

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- by your words and deeds, you are writing the "gospel" by your life - is it accurate and consistent to who God is?
- Story: "Change your name or change your conduct" (Alexander

C. Rely on God's name completely

- God's name is powerful

Psalms 9:10

And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

Acts 4:12

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

John 1:12

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

Proverbs 18:10

The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.

- God's name is our only hope, we can rely upon.

Related Passages

Psalms 86:11

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.

Psalms 113:2-3

Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore! From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.