

Is the Lord's Prayer, Our Prayer?

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Paul tells us about the wonderful gift of prayer that we have been given. He also tells us that we do not know how we ought to pray, so God gives us the Holy Ghost as an intercessor to make sure our prayers get to God in the way that they should, so that He can answer them.

Romans 8:26-27

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: **for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.** And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because **he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.**

Because God is for us, no one can prevail against us. He will freely give us all things! He has given His own Son for us! On top of all of that, Jesus Christ also makes intercession for us with His Father! What a wonderful God we have!

Romans 8:32-34

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? **He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all,**

how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? **It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

If you think that God does not answer every prayer, think again! The Holy Ghost and Jesus Christ both intercede for us with God! God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost are one! He cannot deny Himself!

Jesus is our best example of how to pray. Even though He was God in the flesh, He was always praying to His Father. Jesus taught His disciples how to pray.

Matthew 6:7-8

But **when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.** Be not ye therefore like unto them: for **your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.**

Jesus gave His disciples what we call "The Lord's Prayer." Some people call it "The Disciples' Prayer" because Jesus gave it to His disciples to pray.

Matthew 6:9-13

After this manner therefore pray ye: **Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 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.**

We have probably all been taught the Lord's Prayer, but we may be so used to hearing it, and reciting it, that we may not even think about what we are asking! Saying the Lord's Prayer may fall into the "groanings which cannot be uttered," because we do not know what to pray for, especially at a time of crisis, and we say the first thing that comes to mind. That is where the Holy Ghost helps us.

As dispensational Bible students, should we pray the prayer Jesus gave His disciples to pray? On many occasions, groups of people pray the Lord's Prayer, not thinking about what they are praying, just wanting to let God know that they are in distress!

Any prayer, at any time, is never a bad thing. Jesus Christ told His disciples that God the Father knows what we need before we even ask! Paul tells us that the Holy Ghosts intercedes for us to make our prayers, in whatever shape they take, acceptable. Our apostle, Paul, told us to always rejoice, make prayer our first thought and to give thanks to God during whatever is going on in our lives.

1Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Paul tells us to do everything, in word or deed, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father. That includes praying. Giving thanks always goes with praying.

Colossians 3:15, 17

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Ephesians 5:20

Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4:6-7

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

It is never wrong to pray the prayer our Lord gave to His disciples, but it is just that, it is for the Lord's earthly apostles and the nation of Israel as they go through the Tribulation.

To enrich your prayers to reflect something more personal and applicable to you, brings you closer to experiencing the peace that passes all

understanding. Romans 8 is filled with verses that you are probably already familiar with, but the more familiar you are with them, the more you will be reminded of them when you need them for prayer.

We believers are literally God's children. We can call Him by the same familiar name that Jesus did, "Abba, Father." We are connected by our spirit to the Spirit (Holy Ghost) God and we will be glorified together with Christ.

Romans 8:14-17

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but **ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:** And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

We have God's promise that nothing we suffer in this world can be compared to what glory we will see when we are with our Lord.

Romans 8:18

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Here is where we are told that the Holy Ghost intercedes for us so that God can answer every one of our prayers according to God's will. When we pray, we should look for the answer!

Romans 8:26-27

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

We are promised that all things work together for good for believers.

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

God is always on our side, so no one can prevail against us.

Romans 8:31

What shall we then say to these things? **If God be for us, who can be against us?**

God will freely give us all things—answer all prayers—because He gave us His Son and we have been justified by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:32-34

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, **who also maketh intercession for us.**

We can never be separated from the love of Christ. The Holy Ghost dwells in our hearts. There is a list of things we do not have to fear. It includes everything! Nothing can take us from the love of Christ.

Romans 8:35, 38-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall **tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God will deliver us from all evil! (Just like in the Lord's Prayer) and take us to heaven.

2 Timothy 4:18

And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

With all of those wonderful verses about God's protection and His enduring love for us, you may be able to put your own "Lord's Prayer" together for occasions when you are left with just groanings which cannot be uttered.

Following, is a prayer to consider that uses Jesus Christ's framework for the Lord's Prayer, but changes some of the petitions to reflect the differences between the nation Israel, and the Church, the Body of Christ, by using phrases from Paul's epistles.

Pauline Prayer
(Based on the Lord's Prayer)

Our Father, which are in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. We eagerly await the Day of Redemption, when we will meet your Son in the air, to ever be with our Lord. Until then, help us to be content with having food and raiment, and to remember to give thanks in everything. Make us kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, because you, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven us. Thank you that you will not suffer us to be tempted above that we are able to bear. Thank you for delivering us from every evil work and from the wrath to come.

Preserve us unto your heavenly kingdom, giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; to You be glory for ever and ever. Amen.