

**Is The Lord's
Prayer
Our Prayer?
A Quick Review**

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 (page 1056)

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.**

No one can prevail against us because God is for 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 (page 1056-1057)

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.

Just in case you think that God does not answer every prayer, the Holy Ghost and Jesus Christ both intercede for us with God! The Bible tells us that God cannot deny Himself. God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost are all God.

1John 5:7 (page 1145)

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

We can be certain that if Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost are interceding for us, God cannot deny Them (Himself.) Every prayer will be

answered in the way that it ought to be answered. We just have to look for it!

2 Timothy 2:11-13 (page 1115)

It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: **he cannot deny himself.**

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 (page 896)

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.

Should we pray the prayer Jesus gave His disciples? We are so used to hearing and reciting The Lord's Prayer that we may not even think about what we are asking! We need to study it.

This first part certainly applies to us, "Our father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. God is our Father, too. We have the kind of relationship with Him that we, as His sons and daughters-and even better, heirs-can call Him "Abba, Father."

Romans 8:14-17 (page 1056)

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.

"Abba, Father" is the same thing that Jesus Christ, Himself, calls God, His Father!

Mark 14:36 (page 945)

And **he said, Abba, Father**, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.

Next, Jesus reminds them to ask for the Kingdom. Israel has been promised a Kingdom on the earth where Jesus Christ, as the son of David, will reign forever.

Matthew 6:10 (page 896)

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Isaiah 9:7 (page 657)

Of the increase of his government and peace **there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom,** to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

This part of The Lord's Prayer is not for us in the dispensation of Grace. Christ's earthly Kingdom is not our ultimate destiny. Instead

of waiting for the Lord Jesus Christ to come back to establish His earthly Kingdom, as He has promised the nation Israel, we will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air to forever be with the Lord in the heavens.

1Thessalonians 4:16-18 (page 1107)

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

The next petition in The Lord's Prayer is also specific to the Jews.

Matthew 6:11 (page 896)

Give us this day our daily bread.

Jesus included daily bread in their prayer to remind Israel that God gave them daily bread in the wilderness under Moses.

Exodus 16:21-23 (page 73)

And **they gathered it every morning**, every man according to his eating: and **when the sun waxed hot, it melted**. And it came to pass, that **on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread**, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. And he said unto them, This is that which the LORD hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.

And God will provide daily bread for them during the terrible persecution of the Tribulation. "The woman" in the following passage is Israel.

Revelation 12:6 (page 1158)

And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

We, too, can ask God to provide food for us, but Paul reminds us that we will be taken out of this world to spend our eternity in heaven. Until then, we should be satisfied with having something to eat and something to wear.

1 Timothy 6:7 (page 1113)

For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. **And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.** We know that the next of Jesus' petitions is also for Israel, not us. We can be very thankful that our sins are already forgiven.

Matthew 6:12 (page 896)

And forgive us our debts, as **we forgive our debtors.**

Forgiveness of everyone who had wronged them was required of every Jew in Israel if they were to be forgiven by God for their sins.

Mark 11:25-26 (page 940)

And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which

is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.
**But if ye do not forgive, neither will your
Father which is in heaven forgive your
trespasses.**

It is different for us, today. We are supposed to forgive one another because Christ has forgiven us. Our forgiveness from God is not dependent on our forgiveness of other people. Praise God for that!

Ephesians 4:29-32 (page 1095)

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And **grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.** Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And **be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.**

Then, Jesus told the disciples to ask God not to lead them into temptation (testing) and to deliver them from evil.

Matthew 6:13 (page 896)

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.

Testing and evil are future for Israel on the earth. The Tribulation is described in the book of Revelation. Jesus also described the seven-year Tribulation to His disciples.

Matthew 24:21-22 (page 918)

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. **And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.**

I'm sure you can see why Jesus gave this prayer for the people on earth, after the Rapture, going through the Tribulation. They will not have the Holy Ghost in their hearts to intercede

for them. The prayer that Jesus gave them is specific to this purpose, the Tribulation.

We are promised that we will not be on earth to go through the Tribulation, the outpouring of God's wrath.

1Thessalonians 1:10 page 1105)

And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, **which delivered us from the wrath to come.**

But we do face temptation-testing. Here is what Paul tells us about temptation for us.

1Corinthians 10:13 (page 1071)

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

We do face evil but, in his last letter, Paul tells us that the Lord will deliver him from every evil work.

2 Timothy 4:18 (page 1116)

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.

Notice that Paul again makes it clear that he (and we) are being preserved for a heavenly, not earthly, Kingdom.

The last petition of the Lord's Prayer is, "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen." It sounds very similar to what Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 4:18, "...preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

We should add one thing that is not in the Lord's Prayer. 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.

Colossians 3:17 (page 1103)

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 (page 1095)

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

The following prayer uses Jesus Christ's framework in the Lord's Prayer and changes passages that were specific to Israel into passages from Paul's letters to the Church, the Body of Christ. It is never "wrong" to pray the prayer our Lord gave to His disciples, but it is just that, for His disciples and the nation of Israel.

Pauline Prayer

Our Father, which art 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.