

# SERVING THE KING

---

---

The Lord's Prayer, Summer 2023: Matthew 6:10

July 16, 2023

*This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'*

Matthew 6:9-10

## **One Sentence Sermon: Find where God is breaking in and join him**

*"Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven . . . .*

*"This, then is how you should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,*

<sup>10</sup> *your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

<sup>11</sup> *Give us today our daily bread.*

<sup>12</sup> *Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

<sup>13</sup> *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'*

Matthew 6

<sup>47</sup> *"Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. <sup>48</sup> When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. <sup>49</sup> This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

<sup>51</sup> *"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.*

*"Yes," they replied.*

Matthew 13

1. The kingdom comes when and where the King is known
  
2. Every kingdom has these elements:
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  
3. The kingdom is both now (Matthew 3:17) and not yet (Matthew 13:31-32), both invisible (John 3:3, 18:36-37) and becoming visible (Romans 14:17; Ephesians 5:3-14). In the church, the not yet is becoming now, and the invisible is becoming visible (with thanks to John Calvin).

## Heidelberg Catechism, Part III: Gratitude

### *Lord's Day 48*

Q 123. What does the second petition mean?

A. "Your kingdom come" means: Rule us by your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to you.<sup>1</sup>

Preserve your church and make it grow.<sup>2</sup> Destroy the devil's work; destroy every force which revolts against you and every conspiracy against your holy Word.<sup>3</sup>

Do this until your kingdom fully comes, when you will be all in all.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [Ps. 119:5, 105; 143:10; Matt. 6:33](#) <sup>2</sup> [Ps. 122:6-9; Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:42-47](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Rom. 16:20; 1 John 3:8](#) <sup>4</sup> [Rom. 8:22-23; 1 Cor. 15:28; Rev. 22:17, 20](#)

### *Lord's Day 49*

Q 124. What does the third petition mean?

A. "Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" means: Help us and all people to reject our own wills and to obey your will without any back talk. Your will alone is good.<sup>1</sup>

Help us one and all to carry out the work we are called to,<sup>2</sup> as willingly and faithfully as the angels in heaven.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [Matt. 7:21; 16:24-26; Luke 22:42; Rom. 12:1-2; Tit. 2:11-12](#)

<sup>2</sup> [1 Cor. 7:17-24; Eph. 6:5-9](#) <sup>3</sup> [Ps. 103:20-21](#)

## Recognizing where the kingdom breaks in

<sup>20</sup> Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, <sup>21</sup> nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is within you.”

<sup>22</sup> Then he said to his disciples, “The time is coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, but you will not see it. <sup>23</sup> Men will tell you, ‘There he is!’ or ‘Here he is!’ Do not go running off after them. <sup>24</sup> For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. <sup>25</sup> But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

Luke 17

<sup>18</sup> “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. <sup>20</sup> The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. <sup>21</sup> But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. <sup>22</sup> The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. <sup>23</sup> But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Matthew 13

## Joining God’s kingdom work

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5 (see James 2:5 for more commentary on the Sermon on the Mount)

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

<sup>2</sup> He called a little child and had him stand among them. <sup>3</sup> And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18 (see Matthew 25:31-36)

<sup>3</sup> But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. <sup>4</sup> Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. <sup>5</sup> For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partners with them.

<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. <sup>13</sup> But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup> for it is light that makes everything visible . . . .

Ephesians 5

## The church and the kingdom

John Calvin said it is the task of the church to make the invisible kingdom visible. We do that by living in such a way that we bear witness to the reality of the kingship of Christ in our jobs, our families, our schools, and even our checkbooks, because God in Christ is King over every one of these spheres of life. The only way the kingdom of God is going to be manifest in this world before Christ comes is if we manifest it by the way we live as citizens of heaven and subjects of the King.

R. C. Sproul at <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/what-is-kingdom-god>

1. The church hints at the kingdom even as we preach the gospel of the kingdom

*<sup>14</sup> And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*

Matthew 24:14

Life in the church looks forward to the eternal life where God's redemptive presence will be enjoyed to the fullest. In the age to come, the kingdom will no longer be something that has broken in here or there; it will be all in. Think of the good news from [Revelation 11:15](#), which you may have heard in Handel's *Messiah*: "The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." That's what's coming. The kingdom of God is the heavenly world breaking into our earthly existence. Do not think of the kingdom as a realm to which we are going as much as a reality that is coming to us. The kingdom reveals both the meaning and the goal of history.. .

Kevin DeYoung, "What Does It Mean to Pray 'Your Kingdom Come' "

2. When citizenships collide, follow Sproul's advice

*<sup>17</sup> Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. <sup>18</sup> For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup> Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.*

Philippians 3

We experience this conflict of kingdoms when Jesus tells us to pray, "Your kingdom come." What does this mean? What are we praying for when we speak this petition? There is a logic that runs like a ribbon through the Lord's Prayer. Each of the petitions is connected to the others . . . . Manifestly, unless and until the name of God is regarded as holy, His kingdom will not and cannot come to this world. But we who do regard His name as holy then have the responsibility to make the kingdom of God manifest.

John Calvin said it is the task of the church to make the invisible kingdom visible. We do that by living in such a way that we bear witness to the reality of the kingship of Christ in our jobs, our families, our schools, and even our checkbooks, because God in Christ is King over every one of these spheres of life. The only way the kingdom of God is going to be manifest in this world before Christ comes is if we manifest it by the way we live as citizens of heaven and subjects of the King.

R. C. Sproul at <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/what-is-kingdom-god>

## Resources for further study

The poster for Matthew does a good job of showing the 5 Parts of the gospel, reflecting a “new Torah”, can be found at <https://bibleproject.com/downloads/posters/>

Here are some of our growing number of prayer resources:

The CRCNA’s Prayer Guide illustrates how to use the Lord’s Prayer as a guide to corporate prayer at [https://www.crcna.org/files/the\\_lords\\_prayer](https://www.crcna.org/files/the_lords_prayer)

Kevin DeYoung’s article at <https://www.crossway.org/articles/what-does-it-mean-to-pray-your-kingdom-come/>

Lora Copely’s “Extraordinary Prayer” article at <https://www.abideproject.org/articles/extraordinary-prayer>

Becket Cook’s story of his mother’s prayer at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uFWl9eWkmWg>

Michael Horton offers an interesting studies of the kingdom of God at

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/tale-two-kingdoms> and <https://corechristianity.com/resource-library/articles/lord-when-will-you-restore-the-kingdom/>

Joshua Benton has an interesting “breaking in” article at <https://network.crcna.org/topic/church-strategy-mission/evangelism/breaking-disciple-making>

Hodge has a very good kingdom study at <https://www.monergism.com/kingdom-heaven>

Sproul has a helpful and short discussion of the kingdom at <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/what-is-kingdom-god>

Kim Riddlebarger has a good study, even if it is a bit harsh on those who disagree with him, at <https://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/sdg/thykingdom.html>

I appreciated Bethancourt’s article on Jesus and the kingdom at

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/10-connections-between-jesus-and-the-kingdom-of-god/>

Larry Stockstill has a good summary of the pattern of the Lord’s Prayer at <https://larrystockstill.com/blog/prayer-template>

Keller has a good listen at <https://gospelinlife.com/downloads/the-upside-down-kingdom-5106/> or the .pdf version at <https://www.scribd.com/document/258555474/Upside-Down-Kingdom-Tim-Keller>

Keller also has an 8-part series on the Lord’s Prayer on .mp3 at <https://www.monergism.com/lords-prayer-8-part-mp3-sermon-series>

[Monergism.com](https://www.monergism.com) has many resources on the Sermon on the Mount at <https://www.monergism.com/topics/sermon-manuscripts-mp3s-scripture/matthew/sermon-mount-ch-5-7>

Ryle has a commentary of Matthew 6 at <https://www.gracegems.org/Ryle/m06.htm>

Bob Deffinbaugh has a sermon on this passage at <https://bible.org/seriespage/fatal-failures-religion-3-externalism-matthew-61-18>

Spurgeon has an interesting prayer take is at <https://www.spurgeon.org/resource-library/sermons/the-secret-of-power-in-prayer/#flipbook/>

AUTHOR: ?



30-40 YEARS OF ORAL TRADITION

EARLIEST TRADITION Matthew (see 9:18, 10:3)

# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Things to look for

#1 ? LOOK UP OLD TESTAMENT QUOTATIONS (THERE ARE A LOT)

#2 LOOK CLOSELY AT THE PEOPLE WHO ACCEPT JESUS  
IRRELEVANT + UNIMPORTANT + FAITH = TRANSFORMATION

1. MESSIAH FROM THE LINE OF DAVID

2. NEW MOSES

3. GOD WITH US



**MOSES | JESUS**  
- OUT OF EGYPT  
- CROSS THE RED SEA  
- WILDERNESS FOR 40 YEARS  
- RECEIVES LAW FROM MOUNTAIN  
- DELIVER FROM SLAVERY  
- GIVE NEW DIVINE TEACHING  
- SAVE FROM SIN  
- INITIATE A NEW COVENANT

1-3 ABRAHAM DAVID JESUS  
**CONNECT JESUS TO OLD TESTAMENT**

FULFILL OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETIC PROMISES

Immanuel = GOD WITH US

4-7 ANNOUNCE GOD'S KINGDOM  
SERMON IN THE MOUNT (10:5-7)  
GOD'S KINGDOM IS LIKE YEASING  
- RESTORE GOD'S REIGN  
- CREATE A NEW FAMILY  
HOW TO LIVE IN GOD'S KINGDOM  
- FULFILL THE TORAH  
- TRANSFORM HEARTS IN LOVE

8-10 JESUS BRINGS KINGDOM INTO PEOPLE'S LIVES  
SENDING THE 12 (10:1-3)  
EFFECT: ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION

11-13 RESPONSES TO JESUS  
PARABLES ABOUT THE KINGDOM (10:13)  
POSITIVE: "JESUS IS THE MESSIAH!"  
NEUTRAL: "IS HE THE MESSIAH?"  
NEGATIVE: "HE IS NOT THE MESSIAH!"

14-20 DIFFERENT EXPECTATIONS ABOUT THE MESSIAH  
THE UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM (10:10, 17:20)  
- THINK OF SERVING  
- REIGN IN PRISON  
- GAIN THE HEAVEN BY LOVING IT FIRST  
SUFFERING SERVAANT (10:45)  
- SERVE AND SACRIFICE  
- VICTORIOUS! DEFEATS PAGANS!

21-25 CLASH OF KINGDOMS  
CRITIQUE OF "YOU THINKERS" HYPOCRITES! (23:23)  
- BELIEVING AUTHORITY  
- SAY THINGS AS COMPROMISED RESULTS OF HYPOCRISY  
- OFFENDED - DECIDE TO KILL JESUS

26-28 PASSOVER MEAL  
RECALLS THE STORY OF...  
- RESCUE FROM SLAVERY  
- SEARCH OF RESCUER LAMB

THEY NOT THE MESSIAH!  
YOU HAVE BLASPHEMED GOD!  
SANHEDRIN (JEWISH LEADERS)  
PILATE  
HE'S INNOCENT!  
LET HIM BE CRUCIFIED!

INSTEAD OF JUDGING THEM, HE IS JUDGED ON THEIR BEHALF  
SUFFERING SERVAANT (10:45)  
GREAT COMMISSION (28:19)  
- TELL ALL NATIONS THE GOOD NEWS  
- ALL PEOPLE CAN JOIN THE KINGDOM  
- BAPTIZED  
- YEASING  
- LIVE LIKE THE Immanuel!

- 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5
- BOOKS OF MOSES (TORAH)

created by the Bible Project