

## Lord Teach Us to Pray (Part 3) “Thy Kingdom Come”

### Being on Par with God in Prayer (Mt. 6:10)

**Introduction:** Most of the teaching about the kingdom of God is found in the gospel’s and is a result of the teaching of Jesus. Throughout the Bible and specifically to Jesus teaching we find the kingdom of God does not refer to territory over which God reigns; but rather the rule which He exercises over all what and who are subject to Him. So, the kingdom of God could be explained as the sovereign rule and authority of God (Ex. 15:18; Ps. 103:19; Ps. 145: 10-13) So, when Jesus is teaching us how and for what to pray; when He comes to the kingdom of God, He is telling us where our minds and hearts should be on the subject of the kingdom of God in our praying.

**1. Our hearts and minds should be in a position of praise** – The holy purpose of God our Father is to exalt Christ to rule and reign over His kingdom.

- A. **A kingdom implies a king. (Ps. 2:6-8)** Our king is Jesus.
- B. **God the Father has set Jesus** (His son) on the throne in heaven (having exalted Him, giving Him all authority in heaven and on earth (Mt. 28:18; Mk. 16:19; Eph. 1:20-22; 1 Pe. 3:22)
  - 1. God’s kingdom plan is to exalt Jesus.
  - 2. So, our first and foremost act of prayer is to be to acknowledge and exalt Jesus as king of our hearts, minds and lives – (Phil. 2:9-11)

**2. Our hearts and minds should be in a position to receive a promise** –

- A. **In the Old and New Testament** there’s the promise of the coming kingdom. (Isa. 9:6-7; Dan. 2:44; Lk 1:32-33)
- B. **In the New Testament** *“The Kingdom of God”* is a phrase used more times than any other.
- C. **The kingdom of God was at the heart of Jesus preaching and teaching** (Lk. 4:43)
- D. **Jesus last days before His crucifixion** and the forty days after his resurrection and ascension were spent teaching about the kingdom of God (Ac. 1:3).

1. Jesus spoke of the kingdom of God that is present – *Lk 17:21*

2. Jesus also spoke of God’s kingdom to come – when He taught us to pray “Thy kingdom come...” Just as surely as Jesus was born on this earth; that He lived here and died here; there will come a day when He will rule and reign here in power, glory and righteousness!

However, there is another kingdom (the kingdom of Satan) at war with God’s kingdom here on earth. *The simplest way to understand the “Kingdom of Satan”* (Luke 11:18, Matt 12:26, Mark 3:26) is to understand it as the opposite of and in opposition to the “Kingdom of God” (Luke 17:20, 12:28, Acts 8:12)

So, our praying for “Thy kingdom come...” we are praying for Christ to return, put down sin, do away with Satan and rule the earth. There is a day coming when Jesus Himself will rule this world. This is the clear statement of the Bible, (Rev. 11:15)

- But while we wait for that day – when we pray, “Thy kingdom come...” we are praying... “Today Lord, let your kingdom come and rule and reign in our hearts as Lord; and He will if we receive His reign (Mk. 10:15)
- How do we receive His rule in our hearts? (Mt. 6:33) By seeking to have a total commitment to His purpose and plan.

When we pray *“Thy kingdom come,”* We have God’s kingdom on our minds, we are echoing the groans of nature; voicing the great songs heard around God’s throne in glory, (Rev. 4:8-11, Rev. 5:11-14); and we are sharing the same desire that resides within the heart of God.

**3. Our hearts and minds should be focused on the person of our prayers** – When we pray “thy kingdom come”; we are praying for His kingdom to be realized in our own lives.

- A. **This is ultimately a prayer that enthrones Jesus Christ** within our hearts.
- B. **This is ultimately a prayer that dethrones self;**
  - 1. The only way this can come to pass is if you are, first of all saved. (Rom. 10:9, 13)
  - 2. Jesus does not come asking for your obedience. (1 Cor. 6:20; Gal. 2:20) This is what Jesus said was the mark of a real, genuinely saved believer, Jn 14:15!

*So, our prayer life should not only recognize, but honor the one on the throne of heaven, as the same one on the throne of our hearts and minds as king and Lord overall.*

**4. Our hearts and minds should be focused on the program for our prayer:** Those who are saved by His grace are citizens of God’s kingdom right now, (Phil. 3:20). *When you become a citizen of a kingdom, you are expected to keep the laws of the King.*

- A. **We are to pray that His kingdom will be lived out through our lives for His glory.**
- B. **If there is no desire to see Jesus enthroned in our hearts as Lord and King of one’s life,** it may be evidence that a person is not truly saved. (1 Jn 2:29; 1 Jn 3:7-8).
- C. **However,** when we pray *“Thy kingdom come,”* we are asking for our lives to be brought under the dominion of God’s Sovereign rule, and we join the His kingdom program (Jn. 15:19; Col. 1:13; Phil. 3:20; Heb. 11:10,16)

**5. Our hearts and our minds should be preoccupied with His plan:** When we pray *“Thy kingdom come,”* we are expressing a desire to see His work, His Word and His will advanced in the world today.

*We can have a part in seeing that our Lord’s kingdom is established and spread abroad in the world around us.* Through Prayer – (Eph. 2:10; 1 Cor. 3:9; Mt. 9:37; Mk. 16:20; 1 Cor. 3:6; 2 Cor. 6:1; 3Jn.8) Through personal Submission – (Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:10; 2 Cor. 4:7). Through Outreach – Mark 16:15; Matt. 28:19-20.

*And, we have all the resources we need, Acts 1:8; Rom. 1:16.*

*May the Lord help us not just pray for God’s kingdom to come, but we must also get involved in His kingdom work in the world (Mt.6:33)*