

The Lord's Prayer(3)

April 10, 2021

So, why shouldn't we make the same requests that are in the Lord's Prayer?

- "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). The kingdom refers to Israel's promised kingdom, which was imminent at that time. All Israel had to do was repent of their sins against God and the whole prophetic plan of God's judgment followed by the physical establishment of His heavenly kingdom on earth, with Christ as King, would have occurred (see Acts 3:17-26). I address these prophetic events in the "Mystery" study, but we didn't cover them during our study. Of course, God knew Israel wouldn't repent, so it was soon time (His due time) for God to reveal His mystery.
- "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11). Recall that during the 40 years that the people of Israel were in the wilderness before entering their promised land, all of their needs were miraculously met by God. Their food came from the sky and their water came from rocks at the command of Moses (Exodus 16:1-21; 17:1-6); even their clothing didn't wear out (Deuteronomy 29:5). Now consider Jesus' first *commission* to His disciples (Matthew 10:1-15). He sent them out to preach the gospel of the kingdom but not to take *anything* with them—God would provide for them in some unspecified way (maybe by working through the people they ministered to, or perhaps miraculously), just as Israel was provided for in the wilderness. What would happen if we tried to do that? Please consider the instructions to us through Paul: work with our own hands (I Thessalonians 4:11-12), take care of our own families (I Timothy 5:8), and he who doesn't work (by choice) shouldn't eat (II Thessalonians 3:7-12).

I could add more regarding forgiveness of sins and temptation that differ between the gospel of the kingdom and the gospel of the grace of God, but I'll leave that for another time.

I haven't recited the Lord's Prayer since I began to understand the revelation of the mystery when I was 18 because I realized that it doesn't apply to us. We (members of the body of Christ) are not waiting for Israel's promised kingdom to come because Israel was set aside by God due to their disobedience (until sometime after the rapture when He redeems the nation—Romans 11:25-29). Furthermore, God is not providing for us in miraculous ways as He did for the people of Israel (but He will again for them in the future). However, He does promise to meet our needs (Ephesians 3:20), as well as His peace if we take all of our concerns to Him with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6-7).

I hope this helps to explain my position on the Lord's Prayer. I would be happy to talk about it some more, but it probably would be better in person. However, if you have a specific question or comment, I'll try to address it.