

# ***THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT—PATRICK WALTON***

*A Journey Into Matthew 4-7—1.16.2022*

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## **Week #26 | “A Prayer For God’s Kingdom to Come”**

### **I. INTRODUCTION (MATT. 6:9-10)**

- A. Well, this is our second week looking at the disciple’s prayer, which is a pattern that all followers of Jesus are to use when praying (*might even be the pattern that Jesus Himself used*). It’s not so much a prayer to be repeated, but a pattern to be followed while praying.
- B. So far, from what we looked at last week, here’s the pattern to follow:
  - 1. Our Father—*He’s kind, He’s benevolent, He’s caring, He’s protecting, He’s a provider, He’s involved, He’s better than the best of earthly dads!*
  - 2. Who Is In Heaven—*Though He’s approachable, tender, and loving, He’s also seated high above the circle of the earth, in the heavens. He’s near us, but He’s also so far away. He’s Creator and we are created.*
  - 3. His Name Is Holy—*Not only is He in the heavens, but His name is also separated from every other name. Not only is His name separated, but it’s also to be revered, worshipped, honored, and obeyed.*
- C. These opening statements from Jesus have already placed us in the proper posture and positioned us to grow in our life of prayer with God.
  - 1. We’re looking up, we’re considering God first, we’re worshipping Him, we’re honoring Him and allowing Him and His nature to shape our lives.
- D. So far, we’ve looked at 2 of the 3 opening statements about God, and today we will look at the final opening statement about God.
  - 1. Remember, this pattern for prayer is perfectly split with 3 heavenward things, and then concludes with 3 manward things. God first, mankind second.

### **II. YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE (MATT. 6:10A)**

- 1. **Matthew 6:10a** “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done...”
- B. At the onset of this prayer pattern that Jesus gives us is the reminder that all our ventures in life, our pursuits of wealth, health, happiness, and comfort, we are to seek God and His kingdom first.
- C. It’s not that we can’t pursue other endeavors in life, it’s just that we are to seek God first! He’s to be the priority, Him and His kingdom are to be our obsession. His kingdom is to take priority over our kingdom!
  - 1. **John 17:25** “O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.”
  - 2. Jesus is saying, *“Father, I’m pained in My heart because the world hasn’t known You or Your kingdom! They haven’t acknowledged You and Your nature with a life submitted to You!”*
- D. Every pious Jew in Jesus’ time prayed a similar prayer saying, *“May His kingdom be established in your lifetime.”* There was an old Rabbinical statement during Jesus’ time that rightly said, *“A prayer in which the Kingdom of God is never mentioned is no true prayer.”*

- E. Friends, remember this is a prayer. A prayer for God’s kingdom to come. These aren’t just principles, or ideas, or mental constructs. Our desire for God’s kingdom to come is to be a drive that surpasses all other drives in our life.
- F. Well, Jesus is placing significant importance on those that love Him praying for His kingdom to come. But for many of us, this idea, that God’s kingdom and it’s coming would dominate our lives in every aspect sounds like a foreign message, an out of tune instrument, or a song sung off key.
- G. In many ways, some of us are so wrapped up in our own kingdoms that we don’t really have time to consider Jesus and His Kingdom, a Kingdom of greater importance than our own. And God’s family hasn’t helped us to unshackle from life in this age, and to anchor us into the age to come.
- H. Well you might say, what is Jesus’ kingdom? In short, it’s His rule and His reign, His good rule, and His benevolent reign. Some might say, isn’t His kingdom already here when Jesus cried out from the Cross and said, “...it is finished...” Is His kingdom already here, or it is still coming?
  - 1. Well, the answer is yes. Yes, His kingdom has come, but it’s still yet coming. We like to say, it’s been inaugurated (started) but it’s not yet been consummated (fullness). It’s here, it’s real, it’s present, but it’s still yet coming.
- I. Friends, can you see the progression of this prayer? *“Father, You’re so approachable! But Your also in heaven! And Your name, it’s holy, it’s set apart. Oh, let Your kingdom come, let the nations obey you, and do Your will”*
- J. Our prayer is that the gracious, truthful, compassionate, and all together holy rule and reign of God would come! But come where?

### III. ON EARTH, JUST LIKE IT IS IN HEAVEN (MATT. 6:10B)

- 1. **Matthew 6:10b** “...on earth as it is in heaven.”
- B. Well, the only fitting response to praying that God’s name be hallowed, is that His will be done on earth, here where His name is NOT hallowed, but that it would be, on earth, just like it is in heaven.
- C. God’s space is in heaven, dwelling in glory, He’s worshipped, He lives in perfect harmony with the Son, the Spirit, the angels, the 24 elders, the 4 living creatures, and the souls of those underneath the alter of God.
- D. But here on earth is a much different story. Here God is mostly ignored, dismissed, considered to be aloof, unable to do anything, weak, abstract and removed from the daily lives of most people. But friends, it won’t be this way forever.
  - 1. There is coming a day, when the prayer room in heaven, and on earth will come together! We are assured that God’s coming Kingdom will include people from every tribe, tongue and nation agreeing with and giving their lives in worship to the Father, through the Son, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.
  - 2. He will be exalted on earth, just as He is in heaven. He will be obeyed on earth, just like He’s obeyed in heaven.

- E. Friends, again, from the onset of this prayer pattern we are told to seek God’s kingdom, to ask for His return, to look for, to eagerly await His arrival, to assume that we can’t solve these earthly problems on our own, and we are in need of His help.
- F. This prayer pattern helps us do the painful work of disassembling our little kingdoms and creates a longing in our hearts for God and His kingdom.
- G. It’s concerning to me that many in society, and inside the Church consider you a fringe person, or a prepper, or a radical, and way out of touch if you talk about and have a passion for Christ and His return. Look at what the Bible says regarding Jesus’ coming to earth:
1. **2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:11-12** “Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?”
  2. **2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:8** “Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”
  3. **Philippians 3:20** “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”
  4. **Revelation 22:17, 20** “The Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come!...Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus!”
  5. **Luke 20:21** “Now when these things being to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.”
  6. **Titus 2:13** “...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ...”
- H. Here in the Sermon On the Mount, Jesus has so much to say about God, placing our priorities on Him, and His kingdom. This entire sermon is about placing our treasures where they belong, detaching our lives from earth, and attaching them in heaven.
- I. Jesus knows that as humans in relationship with Him, we struggle to be heavenly minded, to have our fingers pried off life in this age, so that we can be attached to heaven.
- J. So, He teaches us right out of the gate that our prayers are to include the longing of His heart, which is to join everything in heaven, with earth, in Himself.
1. **Ephesians 1:9-10, 15-18** “...having made known to use the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him...I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to...make mention of you in my prayers...that the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know the hope of His calling...”
- K. This prayer, which has been going up for years and years and one day it’s going to be answered. God is going to bring all things together in Himself as He consummates the ages. But it’s not enough to God that His creation agrees with this, He wants us to actively participate with Him to see it accomplished.

#### IV. THREE WAYS TO PRAY FOR GOD TO COME

- A. Over the years I've been helped with three simple phrases to ask for God and His Kingdom to come:
1. That God would come near us in intimacy.
  2. That God would near us in revival.
  3. That God would come for us in the sky!