

Rev. Dustin Daniels | River Bible Church
Matthew 6:10 | The Lord's Prayer: His Kingdom
February 12, 2023

WELCOME:

- Please turn your Bibles to Matthew 6.
- Bibles in the back—our gift to you.

REVIEW:

We continue our verse-by-verse study of Matthew's Gospel today.

We're making our way through the greatest sermon ever preached—by the greatest preacher ever—Jesus Christ and His Sermon on the Mount.

For the past month, Jesus has taught us how and how not to pray.

And for the past several weeks, we have studied the importance of the Lord's Prayer.

We have learned the joy of calling God, "Our Father."

Last Sunday, we also experienced the holiness of God's name.

Putting the last two Sundays together...

Our Father in Heaven, Your name be honored as holy.

LW KEYPOINT 1:

God's people are commanded to be holy, but God is holy.

God's holiness never changes, yet God is very interested in our slow progressive change from sinfulness to righteousness.

LW KEYPOINT 2:

The name of Jesus Christ is taken in vain because it's the only name that can save.

Today we come to the third aspect of the Lord's prayer, which deals with God's Kingdom.

Keep in mind that the Lord's prayer has a specific structure.

The Lord's Prayer is an outline focusing on the ingredients that make up a godly prayer.

The first three verses concern the glory of God.

We are to pray "Your Name, Your Kingdom, Your Will."

The second half of the prayer concerns our well-being.

We pray, "Give Us, Forgive us, Deliver us."

Those verses deal with human needs.

INTRODUCTION:

Today we are going to look at God's Kingdom in verse ten.

What does it mean when we pray, *Your Kingdom Come. Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven?*

What are we actually praying for?

Let's find out!

Please stand for the reading and honoring of God's Word.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:10 CSB

Matthew 6:5—"Whenever you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, because they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward.

Matthew 6:6— *But when you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.,*

Matthew 6:7— *When you pray, don't babble like the Gentiles, since they imagine they'll be heard for their many words.*

Matthew 6:8— *Don't be like them, because your Father knows the things you need before you ask him.*

Matthew 6:9— *"Therefore, you should pray like this:
Our Father in heaven,
your name be honored as holy.*

Matthew 6:10— *Your kingdom come.
Your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.*

Matthew 6:11— *Give us today our daily bread.*

Matthew 6:12— *And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

Matthew 6:13— *And do not bring us into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.,*

And dear friends, these are the very words from the inerrant, inspired, and infallible Word of Almighty God.

PRAY:

*I have treasured your word in my heart
so that I may not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11)*

EXEGESIS:

Matthew 6:9—"Therefore, you should pray like this:
Our Father in heaven, your name be honored as holy.

Matthew 6:10— Your kingdom come.

When you hear the word, kingdom, what is the first thing that comes to mind?

Do you think royalty? Kings and Queens all dressed up in their royal garb wearing crowns?

Do you picture Mel Gibson ^{AS} playing Sir William Wallace in the battle against King Edward 1 of England?

William Wallace, screaming, "FREEDOM!"

Maybe that thought is a bit too bloody for you—

Do you think of the Magic Kingdom with all the Disney characters running around as you stand in line for hours as Mickey Mouse sucks the money right out of your wallet?

What comes to mind when you read that word, kingdom, in Scripture?
We have difficulty wrapping our brains around that word because it's foreign to us.

As Americans, we live in a republic.

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all,"

Our form of government is ruled by states, each with its own representative.

A republic believes that its' sovereignty—its ability to rule and reign freely—rests with the people.

So it's the citizens of this country that vote people into office and also vote them out.

It's not that way with a monarch.

We are probably most familiar with the monarch of England.

In a monarch/kingdom—the reigning king or queen is the country's head of state.

The prime minister and the cabinet are the ones who govern.

The king or queen is supposed to act on their advice.

We've all heard of some of the famous Kings and Queens of England:

- King Alfred (the Great).
- Queen Mary Tudor (Bloody Mary)
- King James 1 (KJV)
- Queen Elizabeth
- King Charles.

So England's history provides a little context into the glimpse of a kingdom world.

Matthew 6:10— *Your kingdom come.*

So what exactly are we praying for here?

Does the word kingdom communicate what it truly means?

Well, let's take a look first in the OT.

We first see Scripture talking about kingdoms in Genesis 10.

Genesis 10:8—Cush fathered Nimrod, who began to be powerful in the land.

Genesis 10:10— His kingdom started with Babylon...

Notice whose kingdom this is...Nimrod's.

Nimrod's kingdom had specific physical boundaries and territories listed in Genesis 10.

He is the king of that kingdom.

Let's fast forward a bit...

Exodus 19:3— Moses went up the mountain to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain: "This is what you must say to the house of Jacob and explain to the Israelites:

Exodus 19:4— 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.'

Exodus 19:5— Now if you will carefully listen to me and keep my covenant, you will be my own possession out of all the peoples, although the whole earth is mine,

Exodus 19:6— and you will be my kingdom of priests and my holy nation.'

Notice whose kingdom this is—God's.

It's the same Hebrew that speaks of Nimrod's kingdom—but but expanded on.

Here we see a difference between man's kingdom and God's kingdom within the OT.

In the OT, God's kingdom included physical boundaries and territories, and we see that throughout the book of Joshua...

But the Israelites were also supposed to minister to the neighboring countries once they settled in.

Key Point #1
So, in other words, God's kingdom is both external with physical land AND internal with a salvific message. *salvation? eternal life*

Matthew 6:10— *Your kingdom come.*

And let's not forget who the King is—It's the Lord God Almighty—Yahweh, God.

That is until Israel demanded a human king— and they got Saul (1 Samuel 13).

That was a very bad plan btw—another sermon for another day.

We fast forward again to the NT.

The word *kingdom* occurs 124 times in the Gospels! (CSB)

Kingdom in Greek is *Basileia* [Bah-suh-leah].

Basileia Doesn't refer primarily to a geographical territory but sovereignty and dominion.

We see a shift from physical territory to the reality of God's rule over all creation.

KEYPOINT #2

When we pray *Your kingdom come*, we are praying for God's government, administration, and leadership—through Jesus Christ to be established on Earth.

Matthew 6:10— Your kingdom come.

The verb “come” refers to a decisive time in the future when the Kingdom of God will come once and for all.

Jesus uses this verb speaking of His Second Coming (End Times/Eschatology).

In other words
God's kingdom will come in its due course/on God's providential timeframe.

It's an event that will happen only once.

Come/*érchomai* (E-R-K-O-MAY) paints the picture of a sudden, instantaneous coming.

Matthew 24:23— “If anyone tells you then, ‘See, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘Over here!’ do not believe it.

Matthew 24:24— For false messiahs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

Matthew 24:25— Take note: I have told you in advance.

Matthew 24:26— So if they tell you, ‘See, he's in the wilderness!’ don't go out; or, ‘See, he's in the storerooms!’ (Inner room) do not believe it.

Here's why...

Matthew 24:27— For as the lightning comes (eisérchomai | ex-cer-oh-may) from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming (parousía | Pah-rú-see-uh) of the Son of Man.

↳ End times
In other words, there will be no doubts or questions when Jesus returns.

Matthew 6:10— *Your kingdom come.*

Your kingdom come has two elements:

1. a present focus
2. and a future focus.

It is significant to note that God's Kingdom is already established in the heavens.

1 Timothy 6:15— *He is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords,*

→ God will bring this about in His own time.

Jesus' kingdom spans the entire universe.

Jesus is Lord over all creation.

So let's talk about the here and now first.

KEYPOINT 3:

At this moment, God's kingdom on earth is, first and foremost, internal.

God's kingdom lies in the hearts and minds of those who have confessed their sin, repented from their sin, and believe that Jesus is God. *MESSIAH*

In this sense, praying for the kingdom to come is praying for the salvation of souls.

Praying *Your Kingdom Come* is about evangelism and witnessing.

Praying *Your Kingdom Come*—is praying that God would give us the amazing privilege as the church, to Share Jesus Day by Day.

KEYPOINT 4:

God's kingdom comes through conversion.

Conversion comes in two parts:

- (1) God's
- (2) Ours

God's PART IS The ACTUAL CONVERTING

Our PART We call this the Great Commission.

Let's take a look...

Jesus had been crucified, laid in a grave for three days dead and then walks out of the grave.

Jesus then revealed Himself to the Disciples several times over the next month, and now Jesus is about to ascend back to Heaven, where He came from.

Matthew 28:16— The eleven disciples traveled to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them.

Matthew 28:17— When they saw him, they worshiped, but some doubted. ^{Disciples Jesus}

Matthew 28:18— Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth."

Matthew 28:19— Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Matthew 28:20— teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

As part of God's Kingdom, we as God's children have been commissioned to do something with our faith.

The word commissioned says it all—We are on a co/mission with the Lord Jesus Himself.

As blood-bought | born-again Believers, | we are tasked to somehow, and in some way, share our faith with other unbelievers.

This doesn't mean we're all called to the office of evangelist.

However, it does mean we are witnesses to the blood-stained cross, empty grave, and our new life in Christ.

That's why our vision here at RBC is to, "Share Jesus Day-By-Day."

God has given us all certain abilities and spiritual gifts to fulfill the Great Commission.

Now, please know that those abilities and spiritual gifts need to be developed—and that's where the church comes in.

Nowhere does Scripture encourage anyone to do anything in the name of Jesus alone and isolated from the church.

That's why we're always teaching, training and teaching.

So it's right here in the Lord's prayer where we become evangelistic and on mission with our church family.

We see the evangelistic efforts by both John the Baptizer and Jesus.

They both preached the same sermon.

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matt. 3:2; 4:17).

Throughout the Gospels, we see Jesus talk a lot about His Kingdom.

Isn't it interesting that before Jesus started preaching about His Kingdom, Satan tempted Jesus with all earthly kingdoms?

Matthew 4:8—Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms (Basileia [Bah-suh-leah] of the world and their splendor.

Matthew 4:9— And Satan said to Jesus, "I will give you all these things if you will fall down and worship me."

So what's Satan suggesting here?

Now keep in mind he's the father of lies.

He's suggesting that all the earthly kingdoms are his to give away.

Is that true?

Moments before the crucifixion, Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor, has a conversation with Jesus.

John 18:33— Then Pilate went back into the headquarters, summoned Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the king (**basileús** | **bah-huh-leahs**) of the Jews?"

John 18:34— Jesus answered, "Are you asking this on your own, or have others told you about me?"

John 18:35— "I'm not a Jew, am I?" Pilate replied. "Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

In other words, Pontius is saying, "You certainly don't look like a king to me."

John 18:36— "My kingdom is not of this world," said Jesus. "If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight, so that I wouldn't be handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

That's why Jesus preached, "Repent for the Kingdom of God is near." (Mark 1:15)

John 18:37— "You are a king then?" Pilate asked.

"You say that I'm ^{yes} a king," Jesus replied. "I was born for this, and I have come into the world for this: to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

So throughout Scripture, we see the two kingdoms at odds with one another.

Jesus talks about this conflict when John the Baptizer starts to doubt after being thrown in prison.

Matthew 11:11— "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one greater than John the Baptist has appeared, but the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Matthew 11:12— From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been suffering violence, and the violent have been seizing it by force.

Suffering violence—Jesus is probably referring to the Scribes and Pharisees,

The violent take it by force probably refers to Herod Antipas, who murdered John the Baptizer.

The apostle Paul also makes a blunt observation about the two kingdoms.

Ephesians 2:2a NLT—You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil

We all have the bad case of the normals.

Ephesians 2:2b NLT—The devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.

So we know that there are two kingdoms on Earth.

One kingdom is Satan's.

And I know we don't like to hear that.

It sounds like a Saturday Night Live skit with the Church Lady.

But keep in mind the world mocks it because they can't understand it, just like you and me at one time.

Let's keep in mind that Satan's kingdom is temporary.

But the Kingdom of God is eternal.

Now, look at what happened after Satan tempted Jesus with his earthly kingdoms.

After Jesus recovers from His forty-day fast...

Matthew 4:23—Now Jesus began to go all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

The reason that Jesus healed and performed miracles is to prove that He is God, ushering in His Kingdom.

Jesus' passion was the kingdom!

It was the central theme of his preaching.

Jesus started off His sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes by teaching about the Kingdom of God.

Matthew 5:3—Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

It's also how Jesus ended the Beatitudes.

Matthew 5:10—Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Jesus tells us how to have our priorities straight as His disciples.

Matthew 6:33—But seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.

Jesus tells us how to enter His kingdom.

Matthew 7:13—“Enter through the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who go through it.

Matthew 7:14—How narrow is the gate and difficult the road that leads to life, and few find it.

Jesus tells us to be cautious of people who say they are in the Kingdom.

Matthew 7:15—“Be on your guard against false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravaging wolves.

Matthew 7:21—“Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

Matthew 7:22— On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name, drive out demons in your name, and do many miracles in your name?'

Notice that their ministry was all about them.

They obviously didn't seek first the Kingdom of God.

Matthew 7:23— Then I will announce to them, 'I never knew you. **Depart from me, you lawbreakers!**'

Jesus goes on to teach about the Kingdom of God through parables.

- Parable of the sower (Matt 12:49)
- Parable of the wheat and weeds (Matt 13:24)
- Parable of the Mustard seed (Matt 13:31)
- Parable of the leaven (Matt 13:33)

Moments before Jesus' ascension back to Heaven, the disciples asked Him...

Acts 1:6—"Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?"

Acts 1:7—He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority."

In other words, Jesus says not to worry about the timing of His kingdom, but to work within the time frame that He has given them to fulfill the Great Commission.

And the same is true for us.

All that to say this...

We, as children of God.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are co-missioned in doing our part to establish the coming of God's Kingdom.

We do this first through prayers.

Secondly, we cooperate with God within the gifting that God has given to us.

In other words, the only way the kingdom of God will manifest in this world before Christ comes— is if we display God's Kingdom in our lives. ^{itself}

God has promised to do His part—but we also must do ours.

How scary is that?

In my opinion, that is a horrible plan.

Have you met us, God?

KEYPOINT 4:

(John Calvin said) *it is the task of the church to make the invisible kingdom visible.*

So that's the present focus of the phrase, **Your kingdom come.**

Let's discuss the future focus.

During the first century, The kingdom of God was in their midst because the King was in their midst.

So when John the Baptizer comes on the scene and preaches, ***Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand—***

He's speaking of the radical proximity of the Messiah.

Because the King is inseparable from His kingdom.

Jesus inaugurated God's kingdom when He came to earth.

However, He didn't complete it.

He will complete it with His second coming.

Matthew 6:10 b/c— Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Will | thélēma (thay-la-ma) wish/desire/to purpose/to resolve.

God's Will means preparing ourselves for unconventional, uncommon, radical, revolutionary alternatives to our ways of thinking.

God speaks through the OT prophet Isaiah:

Isaiah 55:9—For as heaven is higher than earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Psalmist says...

Psalm 37:4—Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires.

Psalm 20:4—May he give you what your heart desires and fulfill your whole purpose.

It is through prayer where God changes our desires toward His will be done - not ours.

Matthew 6:9— "Therefore, you should pray like this:
Our Father in heaven,
your name be honored as holy.

Matthew 6:10—Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

The very fact that Jesus tells us to pray like this reveals that God's will is *not* being done on earth.

KEYPOINT 5:

*When we pray **Your will be done**, we are praying that God's will becomes our own.*

PREACH:

We know and see ^{that} it because we're living among the wickedness right now.

We live in a wicked world where people do everything they can to erase God.

They think that if they can get rid of God, they can eliminate God's law.

If they can eliminate the law, they negate their need for a Savior.

Because they are their own god and live by their own laws within their own self designed kingdom.

In other words, if the world can get rid of the Kingdom of God, they don't have to be accountable to the King of kings.

If the world can eradicate God, there will be no judgment day.

But dear friends, judgment day is coming.

Everybody is responsible for themselves.

However, as we learn to apply everything that we learned today:

Matthew 6:10— *Your kingdom come (through me!)*

Your will be done (through me!)

on earth as it is in heaven.

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

To the King of ages, (the Lord Jesus Christ) immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (1 Tim. 4:7)

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