

## Hallowed Be Thy Name

### Introduction

The first petition of this prayer is designed so that God will be put in His rightful place. The Lord's Prayer is given to teach us primarily to seek God's face, not His hand. Seeking His hand is to ask Him to do something for us. Seeking His face is to honor His personhood, His character, His heart, and His agenda.

- I. **Hallowed be Thy name**
  - A. The Greek word for "hallowed" is "Hagiazo."
    1. Definition:
    2. His name is already holy.
      - Psalm 111:9
      - Isaiah 57:15
      - Psalm 103:1
    3. The plea is that His name will be seen as holy.
  - B. What is in name?
    1. In Bible times names were explanatory of character.
    2. Abraham – "father of nation."
  - C. There are two essential things in a name: identity and reputation.
    1. Moses was concerned about this in Exodus 3:13-14.
    2. God told Moses that His name was "Yahweh."
    3. But a name is also tied to one's reputation.
      - Numbers 14:15-20
      - 1 Kings 5:5
      - 1 Chronicles 6:6
    4. Both God's identity and reputation is considered when we pray this prayer.
  - D. Hallowed be Thy name means to make God's name holy but here the name refers to God's reputation.
    1. At first God taught only Israel how to live to honor His name, but He intended them to become a "light to the nations."
    2. Then Jesus came and made God's identity clearer than anyone had ever known.
    3. The overall idea is that God's reputation would expand throughout the earth as people come to know who God is.
    4. His ultimate plan is that the "whole earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as the water covers the sea" (Isaiah 11:9).
    5. His plan will be fully realized when all the nations of the world become the one nation of our God and He will be Lord over all. Zachariah 14:9

- II. To Hallow or to Profane
  - A. God's reputation (His name) is of critical importance for His plan of salvation.
    - 1. The Hebrew tradition of Kiddush hashem (ki doosh ha shem) give us insight to what is meant in hallowing the name of God.
    - 2. It means sanctifying the name of God.
    - 3. The story of Simeon ben Shetach
    - 4. The idea of kiddush hashem is to associate loving deeds with God's reputation. Jesus told his disciples to heal the sick and proclaim the kingdom (Matthew 10:7-8).
    - 5. The ultimate example is in Christ Himself. In John 17:26 He said, "I have made you have known to them and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that myself may be in them."
  - B. There are two Biblical concepts:
    - 1. The name of God is sanctified when He redeemed Israel and the Gentiles saw the vindication of God's promise and were moved to worship (Leviticus 21:6).
    - 2. In the second man is responsible for God's honor in the eyes of the world (Numbers 20:12 and Deuteronomy 32:51).
- III. The name of God is hallowed by divine revelation.
  - A. "...the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead" (Romans 1:20).
  - B. The names of God are an expression of His character.
    - 1. In the O.T. He was known as Jehovah.
    - 2. Variations of that name were given to reveal greater understanding of God's nature.
  - C. The greatest expression of God's nature is revealed in Jesus Christ.
  - D. He is present today in the power of the Holy Spirit that He might reveal Himself.
- IV. His name is hallowed when we honor our relationship with Him.
  - A. This prayer teaches me that first and foremost I should desire to reveal the name of Jesu and the character of God in my life.
  - B. This should be expressed in every detail of my life.
- V. His name is hallowed by human recognition.
  - A. As Jesus revealed the Father, we are here to reveal Jesus.
    - 1. Romans 2:24
    - 2. Failure on our part to hallow the name of God has disastrous consequence.

- B. There should be more kindness, charity, endurance, loyalty, sacrifice, and love in Christians.

Conclusion:

- A. Psalm 145:1-3
- B. There is more healing and more joy in hallowing the name of God than we ever dreamed.
- C. There are hungry hearts that will never realize their need because they do not know what they desire, until they see Jesus in us. I am sorry