



Teach us to Pray - Spiritual Rule of the Kingdom

Sunday Sermon – 3/30/2025

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Matthew 6:9-15 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. 14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

The Kingdom of God and the King of that Kingdom, Jesus Christ, is the New Testament Gospel that Jesus and His disciples preached. (Mark 1:14-15, Acts 8:12)

The Kingdom Manual (The Bible)

The Kingdom of God has a manual (**The Bible**), which is a guide for its citizens to follow. This manual outlines the mindset of the King and the ways of the Kingdom.

The mindset of the King and the ways of the Kingdom do not come automatically, **Isaiah 55:8-9 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.**

Our minds need to be renewed to embrace "Kingdom of God" thinking. **Romans 12:2 "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good, pleasing, and perfect."**

The Kingdom is both physical and spiritual.

The Kingdom of God represents the King's territory, governmental rule and reign, and His citizens.

Physical Kingdom of God

Physical Territory of the Kingdom - The physical universe and everything in it.

Physical Governmental Rule and Reign- The total rule and reign of Jesus Christ over this earth will take place at the end of the tribulation period. What we call the Millennium reign of Christ.

Until then, we are to "occupy" until He comes. **Luke 19:13, "Occupy, (Do Business) until I come,"** means to be actively engaged, productive, and turn a profit "for the Kingdom of God" with the resources and opportunities entrusted to us, striving to make the most of them until the Lord's return.

When our life's motive is this, we need not worry about being taken care of; it's a promise from God.

Citizens of the Kingdom- The Citizens of the Kingdom are born-again saints. The ones who are overcoming the world by faith are the ones who will rule and reign with Jesus Christ.



Revelation 2:26 And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations —

Revelation 21:7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Try not to allow the enemy to use you to be an obstacle for another saint to overcome.

Spiritual Kingdom of God:

Territory of the Spiritual Kingdom

Luke 17:21 "The kingdom of God is within you." This phrase means that God's reign and power are not merely a future physical event, but this reign and power should be taking place present in the hearts of believers by the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:16-17 Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; 17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The Kingdom of God in spirit is the Holy Spirit, which God gives willingly.

Luke 11:13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Seeking the kingdom of God in spirit involves developing a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

To do this, we must understand that the Holy Spirit is a person, one of the dignitaries of the Trinity, which is God.

The Holy Spirit allows us the kingdom life Jesus came to this earth to provide, a life of righteousness, peace, and Joy, setting us free from daily fears and lust that come from the curse, our flesh, and ungodly forces.

For it is the Christ in us which is the hope of glory!

Spiritual Rule of the Kingdom:

The spiritual rule of the kingdom is in our hearts, it encompasses peace, provided by the love of God.

There are two types of peace Jesus provides: peace with God and the peace of God.

Peace with God

We are born enemies of God because of our sinful nature.

Colossians 1:21 "Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior" .

God took the initiative by sending His Son, Jesus, who lived a perfect life, and died for our sins.

Hebrews 4:15- For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.



2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

To understand peace with God, we must first recognize our state of being at our natural birth; we were born enemies of God due to our inherited sin nature from Adam and Eve.

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all died even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man (Adam) sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Being born with this rebellious nature puts us at odds with our perfect Creator, as His justice demands punishment for our sins. **Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, ...**

Our efforts to create peace with God will always fall short, as the best we can do will be compared to filthy rags when measured against God's holiness.

Isaiah 64:6 (Message Bible) We're all sin-infected and sin-contaminated. Our best efforts are grease-stained rags.

Romans 5:10, (NLT). "For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son".

Peace with God was provided for us as a gift because of the finished works of Jesus Christ, we are now His friends.

Romans 6:23 ... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The gift of life we receive through Christ Jesus is not just eternal life but also abundant life, characterized by a state of wealth that continually increases in every area of our lives.

The Peace of God

Colossians 3:14-15: "But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful."

For the Peace of God to reign in our hearts, we must put on love. The Greek word for love is "Agape," which signifies unconditional love that is expressed deliberately through attitude, words, and actions.

"Putting on love" refers to actively cultivating and embodying love in one's actions and character, as if it were clothing, implying that love is a deliberate choice and a way of life, not just an emotion.

When a believer chooses to love, it will communicate to God and others.

Every believer possesses this type of love because, upon salvation, the Bible states in **Romans 5:5 that the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.**

When a person chooses to love, the peace of God will fill and rule in their hearts

The word for "peace" in Greek is Eirene, which stands in contrast to war and conflict. It represents a serene state of the soul, assured by salvation in Christ Jesus. The Greek word Eirene is parallel to the Old Testament



term “shalom,” which comprises wholeness, soundness, health, well-being, and prosperity. Nothing is Missing, Nothing is Broken, and Everything is Complete.

When we let this type of peace rule in our hearts, then our soul will be flooded with joy, and we will have the strength to do whatever we do in an excellent way!

Jesus left this peace for us when He went to heaven.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Notice Jesus said His Peace, the same peace that allows Him to walk in faith, doubting nothing and being confident that all is well at all times is available so us as we choose to walk in love.

Unforgiveness is an enemy to our peace.

Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

Colossians 3:13: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if an grievance against someone. As the Lord forgave you, so you also must forgive."

When we choose not to forgive, we build a barrier that separates us from the individual we feel wronged by, trapping us in our own resentment and anger.

There are some people here today who are trapped in their own anger and unforgiveness.

Worry is an enemy to our peace.

Worry is a fear-based feeling of unease or anxiety about something that might happen in the future, or about a past event and its potential future consequences.

Worry vs Concern

While both "worry" and "concern" express a troubled state of mind, worry is often rooted in fear and the anticipation of negative outcomes, while concern is more fact-based and focused on finding solutions or taking action.

Worry:

- **Focus:** Often dwells on things outside of our control, like the future or other people's behavior.
- **Nature:** Driven by fear and a sense of potential loss or loss of control.
- **Action:** Can lead to inaction or unproductive behaviors, as it keeps us fixated on the problem.
- **Example:** Worry will say, "What if I fail the exam?"



Concern:

- **Focus:** Based on actual perceptions and tangible evidence, leading to a more level-headed approach.
- **Nature:** Motivated by a desire to address a problem or situation, often with a focus on solutions.
- **Action:** Encourages proactive steps and problem-solving.
- **Example:** "I need to study more to prepare for the exam."

You can have peace and still be concerned about the matter.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT) Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

*This type of peace is released by prayer, Thanksgiving, and confession. Instead, **pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done**".*

Matthew 7:31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek...

... For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Don't worry, trust.

Psalms 37:3-5 (NLT) Trust in the Lord and do good. If we trust in the Lord, we don't have anything hindering us from doing Good.

Then you will live safely in the land and prosper. This means that we will see safety and prosperity here on Earth.

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

5 Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you.

For peace to rule in our hearts is conditional based on our walking in the Spirit. **"His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus".**

The extent to which we embrace the Peace of God within our hearts directly influences the quality of our lives. This peace in our inner selves, we open the door to a richer, more fulfilling existence, allowing us to navigate life's challenges with grace, faith, and gratitude.