

14 March 2021

Matthew 6:10B

We continue this morning in the Sermon on the Mount, in the Lord Jesus teaching us to pray.

Every child of God should want to converse with God! If that be true of you, then you should want to know HOW TO converse with and communicate with God. Prayer is speaking with, and communicating with God, who is your Father in heaven!

If you're a child of God, you should be one who is OFTEN at the Throne of Grace. Prayer strengthens your secret relationship and intimacy with your Heavenly Father. It is by your prayers and supplications to your Father, that he will calm your anxieties and fears; and graciously send help to your soul when you are in need. *Philippians 4:6-7*

When we pray, we are worshipping God & depending upon God!

Keep in mind what we already learned from the Lord Jesus about how we are to pray, and how we are NOT to pray.

Don't pray to be seen/heard by men. Don't use vain repetitions, thoughtless words put together to sound like a religious oration.

But when you DO pray, your greatest desire should be to be heard by your Heavenly Father. So, find that private/secluded place to pray, where no other eyes/ears can see or hear you. A place where it is only your Father's ears and YOUR prayers & supplications to Him.

Jesus then taught them (and He is teaching us) how to pray: "After this manner therefore pray ye"; "When ye pray, say":

When you pray, Christian, you are NOT praying to an unknown and obscure god, but to YOUR Heavenly Father!

OUR FATHER: God the Father loves every one of His children with a special/individual love; Christian, YOU have been adopted into the family of God, there OUGHT to most certainly be a strong, close, & loving relationship that exists in your heart toward your Heavenly Father.

Psalm 65:4: "Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple"

WHICH ART IN HEAVEN: In prayer, your spiritual perspective must always be that you are NOT your Father's equal, but that you are a mortal and finite being, (you are created

by God), AND YET, NOW you are speaking to and praying to your Creator, and the One who inhabits all eternity; who is also your Father, which art in heaven!

HALLOWED BE THY NAME: God's Name is more than just a name; it's the Highness of His Person.

THY KINGDOM COME: This should your chief desire! Enlarge your Kingdom Father, in my family, in my town, in my neighborhood; but also, COME, Lord Jesus. Matthew 6:33.

This morning: "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven"

Jesus now teaches us to pray that God's will would be done in the earth, as it is in heaven. What is God's will?

You will hear Christians often say, I want to know what God's will is for my life. And we ought to PRAY that God's will would be done in our lives; our hearts should ALWAYS be, NOT my will, BUT THINE be done.

We should live by this truth!

But it is very often that we resist God's will. God's will was consistently disobeyed in the history of the OT, the prophet said, thus saith the Lord; the people said, Amen, we will obey the Lord, but then they disobeyed Him.

Matthew 21:28-32: Which one are you?

In our text, Jesus is teaching us to pray that God's will would be done in US here on earth, AS IT IS DONE in heaven. Just like!

In Heaven, God's will IS DONE; it is obeyed and accomplished in perfect and glad submission to God! Psalm 103:20-21

There are no questions, disputes, hesitations or delays, or resistance to the will of God by the angels.

Consider Daniel's prayer for the restoration of Israel; Daniel waited for and prayed that God would rescue them from their captivity. But it is not so much His prayer that I want you to take note of, it is the immediate dispatch of Gabriel by God to Daniel. Daniel 9:18-23

THIS is how God's will IS DONE IN HEAVEN, and that is how we SHOULD desire that God's will would be DONE in our lives, here in the earth.

Oh, that we Heavenly Father would "swiftly" obey your commands, oh that we would submit ourselves to YOUR WILL in everything in our lives!

But now, back to “what is God’s will”? There is God’s secret will? Which none of us know, and there is God’s revealed will, which we do know.

God’s secret will could also be called His Sovereign and Unchangeable will.

None of us know God’s secret will, but we are to know about it. How do we know about it? From God’s revealed will. (His Word).

Job 23:13, Daniel 4:35, Psalm 115:3, 135:5-6, Isaiah 14:24-27, 46:9-11, Ephesians 1:11

God’s sovereign and secret will is going to be done in the earth and in our lives, as it is done in heaven. SO why are we praying God’s will be done? If God has already decreed and “declared the end from the beginning” why pray, thy will be done, if it’s going to be done anyway?

We pray “Thy will be done”; NOT that God would DO what He has determined to do, but that we would acquiesce in, and gladly submit to His Sovereign and Unchangeable will.

And that we would not resist and fight against God’s secret will when it happens in what He is doing in our lives and in what He has assigned to us for our good! Romans 8:28, Philippians 2:13, 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Yes, God’s secret and unchangeable will, WILL be done in your life; your prayer should be that you would learn to gladly submit yourself to God’s secret will.

And then, there is God’s revealed will; what we do know from God:

Here is where that question is answered; what is the will of God for my life? The difference in God’s revealed will, and God’s sovereign and secret will is God’s secret will IS going to come to pass, but that is not the case with God’s revealed will.

God’s revealed will is; if I may READ Acts 17:24-30 as an example!

THAT is God’s revealed will, that ALL MEN EVERYWHERE REPENT! But have they? NO! But this is His revealed will...that sinners would turn from their sins to Christ in repentance and faith!

John 3:16, Ezekiel 18:23, 31-32, 33:11, Matthew 11:28-30

God’s secret will IS, He is going to save His elect whom He has chosen from the foundation of the world; this is why preach & witness? Because the gospel is the means/instrument which God uses to save sinners. And don’t forget this; none of us know who the elect ARE, therefore, WE ARE TO EXCLUDE NONE FROM OUR GOSPEL WITNESS.

Every one of our hearts, as children of God, should be a reflection of God's love and mercy toward us, which we should (in-turn) communicate to lost sinners in the world.

When it comes to knowing God's will for our lives, the Word of God directs us to what we need to know.

We often pray/ask God for specific direction in our lives; we are asking God if it is His will in regard to Brother Jamie to come and share in this ministry. Understand that God's secret will, WILL be done, and so we pray, THY WILL BE DONE in regard to this request that we set before you Heavenly Father; but we also trust and believe that YOU KNOW BEST.

As for God's will for you and me personally?

Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 5:15-17, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7, 1 Peter 1:14-17, 2:13-15, 4:1-2

God's revealed will is sitting in your lap; God's Sovereign, secret, and unchangeable will is unknown to you and me; WHEN YOU PRAY;

THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN;

You are praying that God would help you to ALWAYS be obedient to His revealed will, AND....that you would always humbly and gladly submit to your Father's sovereign and secret will.

If you're lost, I direct you back to Acts 17:29-30, 2 Corinthians 6:2:

Behold now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation!