

Foundations Bible Study - Prayer
Lesson 4

Scripture Readings:

1. Matthew 6:9-13
2. Luke 11:1-13
3. Matthew 13:44-46
4. Luke 13:18-21

Lesson

This is the fourth lesson on the Lord's Prayer and how it can affect our lives and our prayers. This lesson is about the last line of the prayer. Scholars have debated often and over the last 40 years have hotly debated whether or not this line has been added. I don't know, but I really like this final line so I want it in the prayer.

Remember if you go to Mass at a Roman Catholic (RC) Church not to say this ending section, or you will be speaking alone. In the RC Church, the prayer in unison stops with "deliver us from evil." The priest completes the prayer. believe me I learned the hard way trying to fit into the worship at my first RC Mass.

"For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever, AMEN."

Here we pray for the Kingdom of God again at the close of the Lord's Prayer. It must be important. The Kingdom can and has been defined in many ways thru the years, but I still like to believe that the Kingdom is in us. God lives in you and me, we are the Kingdom... Now. We just can not sit back and wait for the Kingdom, it is in us. We need to live it daily. "I wanna be your hands, I wanna be your feet," or "if we are the Body why aren't His hands healing?????" Your Kingdom come Lord God through Jesus and through me... now and forevermore. AMEN

Power. We all want power. Oh, you say you don't..... I feel more and more each day that money and power are the greatest desires of humanity. Maybe I'm wrong, but I don't think so. It is not the power in this world that Christ is praying about. He is praying for God's Power to be alive and well in the world. God is all powerful, but has given free will to the creation. God's power is mighty and forever, so why can't I get more of it? I have felt God's power before, but not to the extent I seem to want it. Yet, always to the extent I need it.

I remember different times growing up when God helped me through the hard times in life. Not to the level I wanted, but I made it through them all. I can also see God working in the lives of others, not as much as I'd like, but enough to get folks through and on with life. God's Power is alive and well in this dark, cold

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world and I, for one, need it much. Your Power, oh God, rain down on us all....
now and forevermore. AMEN

Glory. The Hebrew word for glory is Shekinah. It is the all encompassing Glory of God Almighty shone from time to time. It seems to be like a glowing light that was on the face of Moses when he came down from Sinai, and at the completion of the Tabernacle and the Temple. God's Glory is forever, but why not a little here on me? Why can't people see God in me? Why can't people see Jesus in the Church? Well, maybe we have lost the mystery of the faith and because of that loss; we have lost the Glory too. Your Glory God Almighty come and live in the Church of Christ today and forever I pray. AMEN

I do not know for sure why I feel so special when I say this line,

“For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power, and the Glory, forever. AMEN”

I feel special and I felt a little bit of the future and the glory and the power of God when I end the prayer this way. Especially when a group of believers say it in unison. It sometimes sends chills up my spine. God is our Lord and Master, and sometimes we forget the plan God has, the Glory of God, and the Power of the Lord God Almighty. God help us in our unbelief, and help us not to forget.

This seems to be a good ending for the payer of Christ. It calls for the Kingdom and Glory of God to come and for God's Power to be alive and well. Now and forevermore! I really like this ending and I use it almost every morning. Maybe you could try it and see how it feels and works into your life each day.

Footnote: We will have one more lesson in this unit. It will be next week and about how we should pray and use prayer in our daily lives. Also how the Lord's Prayer can be used, not just on Sunday but more often.

Questions for Thought and Discussion

1. What do you think of when you hear “the Glory of God”?
2. What does the “Power of God” mean to you?
3. Have you ever felt the Power of God helping you, or seen God helping others?
4. Do you have a special way you end your prayer time?