

# The Lord's Prayer 02: Biblical Principles 4-11

## Petition 2: For the Coming of the Father's Kingdom

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

This verse connects with the previous verse as it petitions for the coming of the Father's kingdom. All authority and power rest in the person of the King (Jesus). He is absolute in authority. He is the only legitimate authority. All other authority has its subordinate place and exists because He allows it.

The Father has delegated His authority to His Son. The Lord Jesus Christ reigns at the Father's pleasure, as King of Kings in the Kingdom of God. Christ was crowned King in response to His obedience. His kingship was obtained and validated by His death, burial and resurrection. His obedience reversed the hopelessness and helplessness inherent in our fallen world. The defining characteristics of life in this fallen world are:

- The sinful, unacceptable state of enmity or war between natural, unregenerate man and God
- The confusion, fear and selfishness in mankind's state of enmity toward God
- The hopelessness, ultimate sorrow and regret of fallen, sinful people

Christ made possible the deliverance from the fallen nature of a sinful life in this present age, and brought the Kingdom of God to all peoples. There are three characteristics of God's kingdom: (1) Righteousness, (2) Peace, and (3) Joy in the Holy Spirit. We are taught this in Romans 14:17.

*(Romans 14:17 NKJV) "for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."*

*(Romans 14:17 God's Word Translation) "God's kingdom does not consist of what a person eats or drinks. Rather, God's kingdom consists of God's approval and peace, as well as the joy that the Holy Spirit gives."*

### **BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

#### **4.**

**The death grip of Satan's kingdom has been broken and the mighty and victorious hand of Christ has set us free!**

*(Luke 22:42 NKJV)  
"...Father, if it is  
Your will, take this  
cup away from Me;  
nevertheless not  
My will, but Yours,  
be done."*

As citizens of God's Kingdom, we joyfully stand forgiven before God, and now live in peace with God. This is the gracious gift of God, at work in our lives. A.W. Pink says this about praying "Your Kingdom Come:"

***“In praying “Thy Kingdom come,” we plead for the power and blessing of the Holy Spirit to attend the preaching of the Word, for the Church to be furnished with God-given and God-equipped officers, for the ordinances to be purely administered, for an increase of spiritual gifts and graces in Christ’s members, and for the overthrow of Christ’s enemies. Thus we pray that the Kingdom of grace may be further extended till the whole of God’s elect be brought into it. Also by necessary implication, we pray that God will wean us more and more from the perishing things of this world.”<sup>1</sup>***

God’s Kingdom is at work today and will be complete in the new heaven and new earth that is to come.

***(2 Peter 3:13 NKJV) “Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”***

### **Petition 3: For the Will of the Father to be accomplished on Earth as in Heaven**

***“Your kingdom come.***

***Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.”***

***(Matthew 6:10)***

The Father’s will is absolute in its ability and authority to determine the destinies of all men. It cannot be denied. Charles Spurgeon said,

***“...the will of the great Father is the sum of all wisdom... He ordains all things according to the counsel of his will, and that counsel never errs.”<sup>2</sup>***

Believers who understand the nature of God know that to pray, ***“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”*** is to pray that all of God’s purposes, backed by all of God’s wisdom has the potential to take us to His presence and glory - here on earth!

- To pray, ***“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”*** is to pray that the righteousness, peace and joy that Adam and Eve once experienced in the garden would again become our portion. It is a prayer for restoration of the Kingdom of God as they once enjoyed it, prior to their fall into sin.
- To pray, ***“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”*** is to pray that change comes to the church. We often discuss the will of God more than we walk in obedience to it. This prayer is an encouragement to us to be obedient, grateful children before our Father in heaven.
- To pray, ***“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”*** is to pray that our hunger is for more of Him and less of anything that displeases Him. It is to pray that our affections will never be divided.
- To pray, ***“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”*** is to pray that we will never hesitate to do the will of God... that we will not debate or define for ourselves what God’s will is. We will simply hear and obey.

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<sup>1</sup> Pink, P.96.

<sup>2</sup> Charles Spurgeon, “A Heavenly Pattern for our Earthly Life, A sermon preached on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1884, Exeter-Hall - as the annual sermon of the Baptist Missionary Society, Quote taken from the CD entitled “Expositor’s Bible Commentary, Zondervan.

*“Your kingdom come.  
Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.”*

### **Paraphrase**

*Father, let all that makes up your wisdom and accomplishes your divine purposes be fully done in this place, in this hour, just as it has always been done in heaven, which is the seat of your merciful, just and sovereign supremacy.*

### **BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

**5.**

We are not to debate or define for ourselves what God’s will is. We are to simply hear and obey.

Let’s again connect the first two petitions to complete the first section of the prayer, as we have paraphrased them. This will help us gain an understanding of where the prayer is going.

### **Recap: Section I. The Glory of God**

*{9} “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. {10} Your kingdom come.  
Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.”*

### **Paraphrased**

*{9} Our incredible and perfect Father of Mercy and Grace, Who rules and reigns in majesty in that place of complete and undeniable authority, let Your name be revered and worshiped in the beauty of your holiness.*

*{10} Father, let all that makes up Your wisdom and accomplishes Your divine purposes be fully done in this place, in this hour, just as it has always been done in heaven, which is the seat of Your merciful, just and sovereign supremacy.*

As we have said, Jesus gave us this example to show us how to approach the Father in prayer. The first three petitions extend God-ward, their focus being that the Father will be glorified in every way. They teach us that the proper way to approach God is to first worship Him, giving Him glory and being concerned that His desires will come to pass. Having done this, we are then to bring petitions for ourselves to Him. We do this, having reminded ourselves of the rightful and blessings-filled priorities of placing His will above ours.

## **II. The Good of His Children**

The next four petitions will teach us to pray to the Father for our own needs. The first of these is a prayer for routine physical provision and the next three are prayers for spiritual provision (an interesting ratio: ¼ physical - ¾ spiritual.)

## Petition 4: That we receive our Daily Bread

***“Give us this day our daily bread.”***  
(Matthew 6:11)

***(Proverbs 30:8 NKJV) “Remove falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food allotted to me;”***

***(Proverbs 30:8 NIV) “Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread.”***

As we pray for our daily bread, we are asking the Father to provide us with those things that are necessary to sustain us through the day. The term ***“daily bread”*** specifically refers to our natural or physical needs, such as food, clothing and shelter. This petition asks for those things that make up our needs. It does not ask for luxuries or the accumulation of wealth.

### God’s Obligation

It is God’s pleasure to give us our daily bread. In fact, it is more than His pleasure, it is His promise and His covenant obligation. He has fully committed Himself to this responsibility. He said in Deuteronomy 28:1-13 that if we would diligently obey His Word, He would be obligated to send blessings our way... to provide us with our daily bread. He is always faithful to His Word.

### Our Responsibilities

#### **We are to be Good Stewards and Grateful Children.**

We are nourished and provided for daily, and it is God’s good pleasure to hear our requests and then grant them. As He does, we are called to be stewards of all the Lord gives us. Along with the gift of ***“daily bread”*** comes the responsibility to utilize it properly, without waste or selfishness. Indeed, the Lord expects us to share what He gives, so that He can provide for others through us!

It is our responsibility to remember that God alone is the Source of our daily bread. We are to care for it and use it wisely, never forgetting that it comes by the grace of God. We are to ask the Father *daily* for all we need.

#### **BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

**6.**

**As we pray for our *“daily bread,”* He will know exactly what we need and will not disappoint us!**

#### **BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

**7.**

**Our Heavenly Father is the source of our *“daily bread.”***

We can be confident that when we ask for our “*daily bread*,” our Heavenly Father will give it to us. We are, after all, His spiritual sons and daughters. His affections are always directed toward us. He delights to grant us the day’s blessings. As we pray for our “*daily bread*,” He will know exactly what we need, and will not disappoint us.

*(Luke 11:9-13 NKJV) “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. {10} For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. {11} If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? {12} Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? {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!”*

## **Will we be Servants who love Mercy and Walk Humbly with God?**

*(Micah 6:8 NKJV) “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?”*

Micah gives us three specific responsibilities concerning our daily bread. First, we should know what is right in the sight of the Lord. Second, we are required to do the right thing with what we know. We are to incorporate all He gives us daily to make a difference with our daily lives. God is merciful and expects the same from us. Finally, we are to go beyond acts of mercy and be people who love mercy, for He has called us to be just as He is.

## **A Note of Caution**

The Scriptures give us a note of caution concerning our petitions for “*daily bread*.” Bread is necessary for our sustenance but it is **not the most important thing we need**.

*(Luke 4:3-4 NKJV) “And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” {4} But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’””*

*(John 6:31-35 NKJV) ““Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” {32} Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. {33} For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” {34} Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.” {35} And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.””*

*(John 6:41 NKJV) “The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven”*

*(John 6:48 NKJV) “I am the bread of life.”*

Receiving our daily bread is so much more than physical provision. We shall be satisfied. Christ is the Living Bread!

*“Give us this day our daily bread.”  
(Matthew 6:11)*

### **Paraphrase**

*Provide us with those things that will sustain our natural and physical needs through the day and give us your presence in our lives today!*

### **BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

**8.**

**We shall be satisfied, for the Lord Jesus Christ is the Living Bread!**

## **Petition 5: For Forgiveness**

*“And forgive us our sins, As we forgive our debtors.”  
(Matthew 6:12 NKJV)*

*“and forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.”  
(New Living Translation)*

### **TWO SISTERS**

A story is told of two unmarried sisters who were church-going women. One became offended by what her sister had said. In fact, she was so offended by her sister that she stopped speaking to her. The other sister, not to be outdone, also became angry. There they lived, each with feelings of bitterness and unforgiveness toward the other. There was no reconciling them.

They continued to live together in their small home. They continued to sleep in the same bedroom they had always shared. The unforgiving sisters drew a chalk line, dividing the sleeping area into two halves from the doorway to the other end of the room. Each of them could come and go without trespassing on the other's part of the room. They never spoke to each other again.

In the black of night, each could hear the breathing of the other. For years, they coexisted in silence. Neither was willing to take the first step to reconciliation. They eventually died alone and lonely. Even though all those years they lived close enough to hear each other breathing in the night, they never had the comfort of each other's presence.

(Source unknown to the author)

**Forgiveness is to be the Christian way of life.**

**God's blessings and provision go together with His forgiveness.**

**The petition for forgiveness has two parts.**

**(Two sides of the coin - They are not to be separated.)**

- (1) “And forgive us our debts...” (NKJV)  
“and forgive us our sins...” (NLT)**
- (2) “...As we forgive our debtors.” (NKJV)  
“...just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.” (NLT)**

The connection is obvious. There is forgiveness of our sins by God as long as we release our unforgiveness toward others.



***(Matthew 18:21-22 NKJV) “Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” {22} Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. {24} And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. {25} But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. {26} The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ {27} Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. {28} But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ {29} So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ {30} And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt.”***

Jesus uses this parable to present a clear, firm warning about the dangers of unforgiveness and the damage it does to us. We are not to treat unforgiveness as an option. It will destroy our relationships, kill our joy and ultimately threaten our salvation. The servant in the parable walked in undeserved forgiveness from his master and yet, he had no understanding of its value or what was required of him.

If we allow unforgiveness to dominate us, it will ultimately bring judgment instead of mercy. And... between now and that time of judgment, it will wound us daily. It will be like a thorn in our sides. It will steal our joy and rob us of our blessings. We will become its slaves. In the end, many of us will face the surprise that the Lord rejects us - only because of our disobedience to God’s command to forgive.

***(Matthew 7:21-23 NKJV) “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. {22} Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ {23} And then I will declare to them, ‘ never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”***

The only release is in releasing. The only escape is love. Now, let us finish the Parable.

*(Matthew 18:31-35 NKJV) “So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. {32} Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. {33} Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ {34} And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. {35} So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”*

## Two Lessons

What can we learn from these Scriptures?

First, as believers, we have forever lost the right to take up an offense and make our beds in unforgiveness. We no longer have the right to “an eye for an eye.” We have no right to draw the line between us and the will of God! If we do, we cloak ourselves in darkness. If we wear that cloak long enough, we will wear it into eternity - an eternity without Christ. The unforgiveness will shut the door on our salvation. We will pay the ultimate price for unforgiveness.

Second, we are to forgive again and again - as many times as it takes! We not only forgive, but we are to maintain our forgiveness. This can be difficult, but with God all things are possible.

### BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE

#### 9.

There is no forgiveness of our sins by God as long as we hold on to feelings of unforgiveness toward others.

Forgiveness is a powerful, empowering act in which we reject wrong feelings and declare sound Biblical choices. We *disallow* the voices of unforgiveness and we *allow* forgiveness to speak. Our Father in heaven, through the power of the Holy Spirit, gives us the strength and the will to do this. Is there someone you need to forgive? Now would be an excellent time to do so!

*(1 John 1:5-9 NKJV) “This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. {6} If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. {7} But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. {8} If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. {9} If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

*(1 John 4:7-11 NKJV) ‘Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. {8} He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. {9} In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent*

*His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. {10} In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. {11} Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”*

Without forgiveness of our daily sins, our daily bread will not be of any eternal benefit. A person who has no forgiveness can be well fed, well clothed, with a roof over his or her head and still be without hope. With forgiveness comes right standing with God, which brings the favor and daily grace of God. God’s blessings and provision go together with God’s forgiveness. Praying in this manner reminds us every day that we are dependent upon the Lord and should be obedient to His will.

Our exercise of forgiveness toward others reflects the same kind of grace and mercy that God has shown to us through the substitutionary atonement of Christ. A.W. Pink says.

*“...we are sinners who, out of a sense of God’s mercy to us, are disposed to show mercy to others; hence, we are morally qualified for more mercy, seeing that we have not abused the mercy we have already received... We need to pray much for God to remove all bitterness and malice from our hearts against those who wrong us.”<sup>3</sup>*

**BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

**10.**

**With forgiveness of sins comes right standing with God, which brings the favor and daily grace of God.**

**BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

**11.**

**God’s blessings and provision go together with God’s forgiveness.**

*“And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.”  
(Matthew 6:12 NKJV)*

**Paraphrase**

***And cancel the enormous debt we owe you, just as we willingly cancel and forgive every wrong and every debt owed to us by anyone.***

<sup>3</sup> Pink, P. 116.