

Meeting with God - "Your Will Be Done"

February 8, 2018

Matthew 6:9-13 NASB

9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is 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 also have forgiven our debtors.'

13 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]'

The purpose of prayer is to have the Kingdom (authority) of God, and the sovereign will and purposes of God, flow through us and our lives fluidly with no resistance, just as there is no resistance in heaven.

- *"Just as a servant knows that he must first obey his master in all things, so the surrender to an implicitly and unquestionable obedience must become the essential characteristic of our lives." —Andrew Murray*
- *"Is there a thing beneath the sun,
That strives with thee my heart to share?
Ah! tear it thence, and reign alone,
The Lord of every motion there!"
—John Wesley, 1736*
- *"In his last sermon, A Slip of the Tongue, C. S. Lewis explained: '[God] claims all, because He is love and must bless. He cannot bless us unless He has us. When we try to keep within us an area that is our own, we try to keep an area of death. Therefore, in love, He claims all. There's no bargaining with Him.'" —Denison Forum, February 5, 2018*

The purpose of prayer is never for God to fulfill my will, my dreams, my desires, my ambitions, my life-goals. The purpose of prayer is absolute surrender to God's will; for Him to accomplish in me whatsoever He ordains.

- *In the American consumerism of professional ministry, we have forgotten Who is Master and who is slave, Who is the Potter and who is the clay.*
- *The religion that sells is the religion that appeals to the will and pride of man. Denying self and taking up one's cross has no popular appeal and generates no large-scale following.*
- *Any personal ambition, goal, dream, desire or agenda that is not completely dismantled and surrendered in prayer is an idol before the Lord.*
- *The selfish prayer will never experience the heart of God; it is too preoccupied with its own desires and will.*

Matthew 16:24 ESV

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "**If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.**"

- *Every day, every hour, every minute, every decision, we deny ourselves and surrender to Jesus no matter what the cost.*
- *Denying self goes much deeper than just saying "no" to yourself (though that is the beginning). The meaning of "deny" is (aparneomai) to utterly disown, abstain, to affirm that one has no connection to someone.*

1 Corinthians 15:30-31 ESV

30 Why are we **in danger every hour?**

31 I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, **I die every day!**

- *Paul denied himself every day of the primal instinct to survive, to be liked and accepted.*

Romans 12:1-2 ESV

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, **to present your bodies as a living sacrifice** [upon God's altar], **holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship** (*latreia* - service, worship, ministration of sacred services to God).

2 **Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

- *"If we are the sheep of His pasture, remember that sheep are headed for the altar."—Jim Elliot*
- *The source of all evil and death, the source of all discontentment and covetousness, the source of all striving, abuse and violence, the source of all malice and destruction, is the absence of absolute surrender to God.*
- *Only in the absolute surrender to God as living sacrifices do we find what truly satisfies and brings life, what is truly good and acceptable and perfect.*

Matthew 11:29 ESV

29 **Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.**

- *To take Jesus' yoke is to have Him choose the work, the field, the pace, the time, the method and the direction we go.*
- *We forsake our ways, and learn from Jesus His ways.*