

A Sermon Series on the Lord's Prayer

Part One: "Lord, teach us to pray ..."

The Lord's Prayer (New Revised Standard Version) ~ Luke 11:1-4

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father,^[a] hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.^[b]

³ *Give us each day our daily bread.^[c]*

⁴ *And forgive us our sins,*

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."^[d]

Footnotes

- a. Luke 11:2 Other ancient authorities read *Our Father in heaven*
- b. Luke 11:2 A few ancient authorities read *Your Holy Spirit come upon us and cleanse us*. Other ancient authorities add *Your will be done, on earth as in heaven*
- c. Luke 11:3 Or *our bread for tomorrow*
- d. Luke 11:4 Or *us into temptation*. Other ancient authorities add *but rescue us from the evil one (or from evil)*

The Lord's Prayer as we say it in worship: *"Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done – on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen."*

The 'Kadish' Prayer from the Talmud: *"Our Parent which art in heaven, be gracious to us, O Lord, our God; hallowed be thy name, and let the remembrance of thee be glorified in heaven above and in the earth here below. Let thy kingdom reign over us now and forever. The holy men of old said, Remit and forgive unto all men whatsoever they have done against me. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil thing. For thine is the kingdom, and thou shalt reign in glory for ever and for evermore."*

(translation by Rev. John Gregorie, cited in Paul W. Meier, *The Lord's Prayer: Finding New Meanings Within the Language Jesus Spoke*, pp. 7-8. From http://www.thenazareneway.com/lords_prayer.htm).

The Seven Petitions in the Lord's Prayer

- The First Petition: Our Father, who art in heaven
- The Second Petition: hallowed by thy Name
- The Third Petition: Thy kingdom come
- The Fourth Petition: Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven
- The Fifth Petition: Give us this day our daily bread
- The Sixth Petition: And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those that sin against us
- The Seventh Petition: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil

Matthew 6:9-13 NRSV	Luke 11:2-4 (NRSV)
Our Father in heaven,	Father, [Other ancient authorities read <i>Our father in heaven</i>]
hallowed be your name.	hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.	Your kingdom come.
	[A few ancient authorities read <i>Your Holy Spirit come upon us and cleanse us.</i>]
Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.	[Other ancient authorities add <i>Your will be done, on earth as in heaven</i>]
Give us this day our daily bread. [Or <i>our bread for tomorrow</i>]	Give us each day our daily bread. [Or <i>our bread for tomorrow</i>]
And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.	and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial, [Or <i>us into temptation</i>] but rescue us from the evil one. [Or <i>from evil</i>]	And do not bring us to the time of trial. [Or <i>us into temptation</i> . Other ancient authorities add <i>but rescue us from the evil one</i> (or <i>from evil</i>)]
[Other ancient authorities add, in some form, <i>For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen.</i>]	

- Jesus and his disciples spoke Aramaic (the Galilean dialect)
- *Yeshua* = Jesus' Name in Aramaic; *Abba* (Daddy) = Jesus' Aramaic word for God
- For Aramaic words and phrases in Gospels see Mark 5:41, Matthew 6:24, Mark 15:34
- The Aramaic Bible, the **Peshitta**, is regarded as the most accurate and authoritative version by the Eastern Church. (*Holy Bible from the Ancient Eastern Text*, George M. Lamsa's translation from the Aramaic of the Peshitta, NY: HarperOne)
- Problem in accurately understanding Lord's Prayer: Jesus spoke Aramaic / New Testament writings are in Greek / translated into Latin (*Vulgate*) / translated and re-translated into English.

Important book to be used in this sermon series: Paul W. Meier, *The Lord's Prayer: Finding New Meanings Within the Language Jesus Spoke* (Benton: Malcolm Creek, 2015).