

## ***Sermon on the Mount***

***Week 7 - Matthew 6:7-15***

**Walking in the Word Service**

**Sat, 7.30pm**

**Sun, 8.30am**



## ***Review – Matthew 6:1-6; 16-18***

- ❖ **Not to do our acts of righteousness before men to be seen by men.**
- ❖ **If we do, we will not receive any reward from our Father in heaven**



### ***Review – Matthew 6:1-6; 16-18***

- ❖ **Almsgiving, Prayer, Fasting**
- ❖ **Not to be like hypocrites who flaunt their righteousness**
- ❖ **Do it for an audience of one – God our Father**



### ***Matthew 6:7-15***

- ❖ **Second sin to avoid – vain repetition or meaningless, mechanical utterance of pagans**



### ***Matthew 6:7-15***

- ❖ **Hypocrisy – misuse of *purpose* of prayer**
- ❖ **Verbosity (using more words than necessary) – misuse of *nature* of prayer**



### ***Matthew 6:7***

- ❖ ***And when you pray,***
  - ❖ ***do not keep on babbling like pagans,***
  - ❖ ***for they think they will be heard because of their many words.***



### ***Matthew 6:7***

- ❖ **Babbling = heaping empty phrases, using vain repetitions, using many words**
- ❖ **Acts 19:34**



### ***Matthew 6:7***

- ❖ **Is Jesus criticizing long or repeated prayers?**
  - ❑ **No.**
  - ❑ **Jesus prayed entire nights (Matt 14:23-25)**
  - ❑ **Jesus encouraged perseverance in prayer (Matt 7:7-11; Lk 11:5-9)**



### *Matthew 6:8*

- ☛ *Do not be like them,*
- ☛ *for your Father knows what you need*
- ☛ *before you ask him.*



### *Matthew 6:8*

- ☛ **Our God is different.**
- ☛ **He is not ignorant.**
- ☛ **He is not reluctant.**
- ☛ **Isaiah 65:24 – Before they call I will answer; while they are speaking I will hear.**



## ***Matthew 6:8***

***Calvin:***

- ✚ **Believers do not pray with the view of**
  - ✚ **informing God about things unknown to him**
  - ✚ **Or of exciting Him to do His duty**
  - ✚ **Or of urging Him as though He was reluctant**



## ***Matthew 6:8***

- ✚ **On the contrary, they pray in order that:**
  - ✚ **They may arouse themselves to seek Him**
  - ✚ **That they may exercise their faith in meditating on His promises**
  - ✚ **That they may relieve themselves by pouring them into His bosom.**



***Matthew 6:8***

***Luther:***

✚ **By our praying ... we are  
instructing ourselves more than  
we are Him.**



***Matthew 6:8***

✚ **Prayer tests man, not God.**  
✚ **Prayer changes man, not God.**



***Matthew 6:9-13 – Disciple's Prayer***

✚ **Cf. Luke 11:2-4**



***Matthew 6:9a***

✚ ***This, then, is how you should pray.***

✚ ***Cf. Luke 11:2 – When you pray, say ...***



### ***Matthew 6:9b-13***

- ***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.***
- ***Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.***



### ***Matthew 6:9a***

- ***“Our Father in heaven”***
- **The difference is in the God we worship.**



## ***Matthew 6:9a***

- ✚ ***"Father"***
- ✚ **Jesus used it very often.**
- ✚ **OT –**
  - ▣ **Exod 4:22; Deut 32:6; Isa 63:16;  
Isa 64:8; Jer 3:19**
  - ▣ **Used 14 times but not in a very  
personal form**



## ***Matthew 6:9a***

- ✚ **Jesus used a more personal and  
affectionate term for Father –  
"Abba"**
- ✚ **Romans 8:15-16**
- ✚ **Galatians 4:6**
- ✚ **So no request is too small for He is  
our Father and loves us very much**



### ***Matthew 6:9b***

- ✦ ***“in heaven”***
- ✦ **His transcendent nature – He is all-powerful, above all.**
- ✦ **So no request is too big for God in heaven for He is all powerful**



### ***Matthew 6:9-13 – Disciple’s Prayer***

- ✦ ***Matthew 6:33 – But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.***



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- ✦ *Hallowed be Your name,*
- ✦ *Your kingdom come,*
- ✦ *Your will be done*
  - ▣ *on earth as it is in heaven.*



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- ✦ **3 petitions express our concern for God's glory in relation to His name, His rule, and His will**
- ✦ **Parallel in structure**
- ✦ **Correspond to each other in content**



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- ◆ Recall first part of the *Kaddish*, an ancient Aramaic prayer which is said at the end of the synagogue service.



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

***Kaddish:***

- ◆ Exalted and hallowed be His great name in the world
- ◆ Which He created according to His will.
- ◆ May He rule His kingdom



### ***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

#### ***Kaddish:***

- ✚ **In your lifetime and in your days**
- ✚ **And in the lifetime of the whole house of Israel**
- ✚ **Speedily and soon**
- ✚ **And to this say: Amen.**

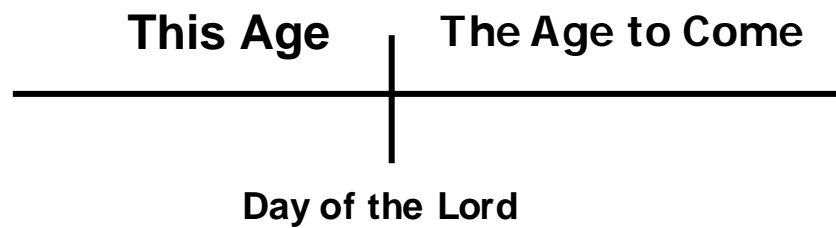


### ***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- ✚ ***Kaddish* is an eschatological prayer.**
- ✚ **Same end in view: God appearing as Lord.**
- ✚ **OT and Judaism look forward to this one day – Day of the Lord – when God would establish His reign on the earth.**



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- 1. Kingdom of God is the sovereign rule of God**
- 2. Kingdom of God is both a present and a future reality**
- 3. Fullness of the Kingdom will only be realized in the second coming of Christ.**

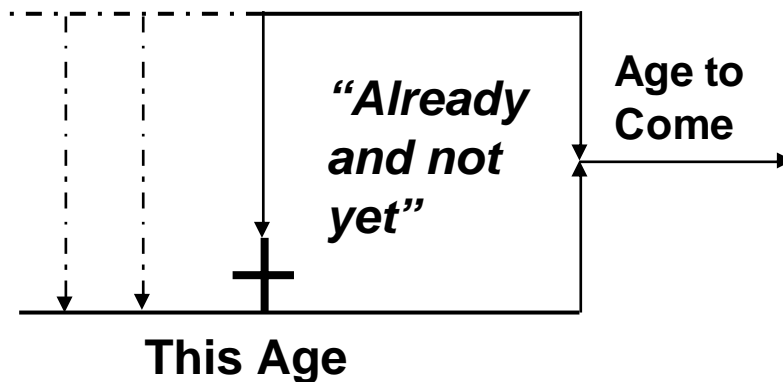


***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- **Start of Jesus' ministry:**
  - ▣ **Isaiah 61:1-2 (Lk 4:21)**
- **Matt 12:28,29**
  - ▣ **Colossians 2:15**



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***





***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- ✚ **New Testament dualism:**
  - ▣ **God's will is done in heaven**
  - ▣ **His Kingdom brings it to earth**
- ✚ **When we advance His kingdom, His will is done on earth and His name is hallowed in this Age**



***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- ✚ **We also look forward to the Age to come**
- ✚ **Rev 21:2-3**



### ***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- **Warfare prayer – praying for advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth**
- ***Matt 11:12 – From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.***



### ***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

- **Advancing the Kingdom or claiming territory in 2 arenas:**
  1. **Touching more lives in Singapore and beyond**
  2. **Expand His rule in our own lives**



### ***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

#### **1. Touching more lives in Singapore and beyond**

- ▣ **If you don't take authority, Satan will encroach into your territory.**



### ***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 1<sup>st</sup> part***

#### **2. Advance the Kingdom of God in our own lives – we need to submit to the rule of God.**

- **Matt 26:39,42**
- **Lev 18:21; 19:12; Amos 2:7; Isa 48:11; Ezek 36:22-23**
- **Matt 5**



## ***Matthew 6:9b-10 – 2nd part***

- ✚ **Jas 4:2b**
- ✚ **Petitioning for 3 things:**
  1. **Provision for Today**
  2. **Pardon for Yesterday**
  3. **Protection for Tomorrow**



## ***Matthew 6:11***

- ✚ ***Give us today our daily bread.***
- ✚ **Does not mean that we don't have to work – 2 Thess 3:10**
- ✚ **Day to day dependence**
- ✚ **Not worry about tomorrow**
- ✚ **"Bread" – that which is necessary for life**



### ***Matthew 6:12, 14-15***

- ***Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.***
- ***For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.***



### ***Matthew 6:12, 14-15***

- **Does not mean that our forgiveness of others earns us the right to be forgiven.**
- **Matt 18:23-35 – Parable of the Unmerciful Servant**



### ***Matthew 6:13***

- ***And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.***
- **Does God tempt us?**
- **No, Jas 1:13**



### ***Matthew 6:13***

- **This prayer is very close to a Jewish morning and evening prayer ...**
  - **Bring me not into the power of sin**
  - **And not into the power of guilt**
  - **And not into the power of temptation**
  - **And not into the power of anything shameful.**



### ***Matthew 6:13***

- **Matt 26:41 – Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.**
- **Pray that God will protect us from falling into temptation and schemes of the devil.**



### ***Summary***

- **When we pray, we are not to babble**
- **Our prayer is different from the pagan's because we believe in a God who is our Father in heaven.**



## *Summary*

- **Model prayer:**
- **1<sup>st</sup> part: Petition for His glory to be seen – in relation to His name, His kingdom, His rule**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> part: Petition for our needs:**
  - **Provision for today**
  - **Pardon for yesterday**
  - **Protection for tomorrow**