

THE WAY OF THE KING

A STUDY OF THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

“We tend to think of sin as we see it in rags and in the gutters of life. We look at a drunkard, poor fellow, and we say, there is sin. But that is not the essence of sin. To have a real picture and a true understanding of sin, you must look at some great saint, some unusually devout and devoted man, look at him there on his knees in the very presence of God. Even there self is intruding itself, and the temptation is for him to think about himself, to think pleasantly and pleasurablely about himself and to really be worshiping himself rather than God. That, not the other, is the true picture of sin. The other is sin, of course, but there you do not see it at its acme, you do not see it in its essence.”

— Martin Lloyd-Jones

“You sum up the whole of the New Testament teaching in a single phrase, if you speak of it as a revelation of the Fatherhood of the holy Creator. In the same way you sum up the whole of New Testament religion if you describe it as the knowledge of God as one’s holy Father. If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God’s child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all.”

— J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

— MATTHEW 6:7-15 —

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“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

— vv 7-8

And he said, “Abba, Father,” all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” And again he went and prayed, saying the same words.

— Mark 14:36-39

Pray then like this:

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.*

*Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

— vv 9-13

“The Lord’s Prayer stretches from the Father at the beginning to the devil at the end, from heaven to hell, and in between in six brief petitions everything important in life.”

— Frederick Bruner

“The Scriptures are shallow enough for a babe to come and drink without fear of drowning and deep enough for a theologian to swim in without ever touching the bottom.”

— St. Jerome

Our Father in heaven

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“In the opening petitions of his prayer, Jesus brings together two ideas that are true *only* of royal children: the intimacy of children, and access to the Great King. The one we address in prayer is *in heaven*, and yet he is ‘our Father.’ The whole of our worship flows from these few words. They, in turn, invest our worship with the grandeur and the joy of true praise and adoration.”

— Sinclair Ferguson

hallowed be your name

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*and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

— Colossians 2:13-14

“The debts we ask God to forgive when we pray the way Jesus taught us to pray are the very debts that were crucified with Christ at Calvary.”

— Philip Ryken

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

— 2 Timothy 4:18

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

— vv 14-15

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