

# The Lord's Prayer

Literal Translation and Exegesis by James T. Bartsch, [WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)  
Matthew 6:9-13

<sup>9</sup> Thus, therefore y o u must be praying: <sup>1</sup>

“Father of us, the One in the heavens, be set apart – the Name of You. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Come, <sup>3</sup> the kingdom of You. <sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Matt. 6:9 - y o u must be praying: the 2<sup>nd</sup> Person Plural [Present Middle Imperative](#) of the verb *proseúchomai* (4336), “to offer prayers, to pray” (OBU). Of all the uses of the verb “to pray” in the NT, all prayers are made to [God](#) or [Christ](#), and never to another human being. Prayers are made *on behalf of* other humans, but never to other humans. This fact completely decimates the [Roman Catholic](#) practice of praying to [Mary](#). Prayers to [Mary](#) constitute acts of idolatry, for she is not [Divine](#).

<sup>2</sup> Matt. 6:9 - Be set apart – the Name of You! “Be set apart” is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Singular [Aorist Passive Imperative](#) of the verb *hagiádzō* (37). In effect, though the believers are addressing corporately their Father in the heavens, their request is a command that God’s name be honored, set apart, and revered here upon earth in the same manner and to the same degree as it is honored, set apart, and revered up in heaven. This has been and continues to be a perpetual request throughout the 2,000 years of Church history, but everyone acknowledges that, with a few exceptions, the prayer is not presently being answered to any large extent.

I work in an environment where several of the employees are nominally Christian (others make no such pretense), but this command, for the most part makes no difference in their daily speech. God’s name and Christ’s name are repeatedly used in vain as a curse word with impunity. Down through the years (I am presently 76 years of age) I have repeatedly witnessed professing Christians using God’s name in vain. And they do not appear to have a guilty conscience in that regard.

<sup>3</sup> Matt. 6:10 - Come: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Singular [Aorist Active Imperative](#) of the verb *érchomai* (2064), here used “II. metaphorically A. to come into being, arise, come forth, show itself, find place or influence B. be established, become known ....” (excerpted from OBU). Note: This is a prayer request that is made in the form of an [Imperative](#)!

<sup>4</sup> Matt. 6:10 - the kingdom of You: This is a request for “the Kingdom of the Heavens to be realized on Earth. This is the kingdom that both John the Baptist (Matt. 3:1-2) and Jesus (Matt. 4:17) were announcing had drawn near in the person of the King, Jesus. Because the Jewish people rejected their King and had Him crucified, this kingdom never came into fruition, and its offer was withdrawn. But this kingdom definitely will come to pass in the future. This kingdom will be a political kingdom with pure spirituality. Those two aspects cannot be diluted or denied.

This request is, in the first instance, a request for the Millennial Kingdom of the Messiah to appear on earth. It is not a request for some spiritual kingdom to come as supposedly manifest in the Church. I say that with assurance because this second request is linked to the first and third requests – namely (1) that God’s name be set apart and (3) that God’s will be performed on earth to the same degree and manner as it is presently being performed in heaven. Without a doubt none of these three requests were accomplished when Christ appeared on earth, and none of these three are being accomplished in the Church Age.

When Christ returns to earth and sets up His kingdom here with headquarters in Jerusalem, Israel, only believers in Him will be present at the start of the Kingdom (see, for example, Matthew 25:31-46), this request will be fulfilled initially. But as time passes, and babies are born to those saints in natural,

Be performed, <sup>5</sup> the will of You, as in heaven, also upon earth.

<sup>11</sup> The bread of us, the daily, give to us today.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive to us the debts of us, as also we forgive the debtors of us.

<sup>13</sup> And do not lead us into trial/temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

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unresurrected bodies, many of these who are born, though outwardly obedient to the King, will not have had a change of heart. I suspect some of them will have loose lips that dishonor the King and God behind their backs, absurdly oblivious to the fact that both God and Jesus will know exactly what their true heart attitude is. These quiet rebels will be exposed and destroyed after the 1000 year Kingdom has ended (Rev. 20:7-15).

In New Jerusalem, and upon New Earth, this request will be honored joyfully and universally for eternity (Rev. 21:1-22:5).

<sup>5</sup> Matt. 6:10 - Be performed: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Singular [Aorist Passive Imperative](#) of the verb *ginomai* ([1096](#)), in the [Passive](#) voice, “to be made to come into existence, to be brought to pass, to be made to begin to be, to be made to happen” (synthesized from [OBU](#) by [JTB](#)). Note: This is a prayer request that is made in the form of an [Imperative](#)!