

SCHOOL OF PRAYER

SESSION #10: THE LORD'S PRAYER

Session 10: The Lord's Prayer

I. JEWISH ORIGINS

- A. The entire prayer is given in the plural form

Our Father in heaven...Give us this day our daily bread... forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors...do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us (Mt 6:9-13)

- B. "Our Father": Invoking the covenant

⁵ yet his degenerate children have dealt falsely with him, a perverse and crooked generation. ⁶ Do you thus repay the LORD, O foolish and senseless people? Is not he your father, who created you (LXX 'rescued you'), who made you (pl.) and established you(pl.)? (Dt 32:5-6 NRSV)

¹⁵ Look down from heaven and see, from your holy and glorious habitation. Where are your zeal and your might? The yearning of your heart and your compassion? They are withheld from me. ¹⁶ For you are our father, though Abraham does not know us and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our father; our Redeemer from of old is your name... ⁸ Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. (Is 63:15-64:8 NRSV)

⁶ A son honors his father, and servants their master. If then I am a father, where is the honor due me?... (Mal 1:6 NRSV)

- C. "Hallowed be your name": Passive, imperative of 'sanctify'

²³ I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes. (Eze 36:23 NRSV)

- D. "Your kingdom come": Restoration of Davidic Kingdom in Israel

"Glorified and sanctified be God's great name throughout the world which He has created according to His will. May He establish His kingdom in your lifetime and during your days, and within the life of the entire House of Israel, speedily and soon; and say, Amen." – Kaddish

⁶ "In that day," declares the LORD, "I will assemble the lame And gather the outcasts, Even those whom I have afflicted. ⁷ "I will make the lame a remnant And the outcasts a strong nation, And the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion From now on and forever.

⁸ "As for you, tower of the flock, Hill of the daughter of Zion, To you it will come— Even the former dominion will come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem. (Mic 4:6-8 NASB95)

⁴⁴ And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall this kingdom be left to another people. It shall crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever (Da 2:44 NRSV)

- E. "Our Daily Bread": 'epiousios' - either a) 'necessary bread' or b) 'bread for the day'

³ And it shall come to pass when all is accomplished that was to come to pass in those parts, that the Messiah shall then begin to be revealed... ⁶ And those who have hungered shall rejoice: moreover, also, they shall behold marvels every day.... ⁸ And it shall come to pass at that self-same time that the treasury of manna shall again descend from on high, and they will eat of it in those years, because these are they who have come to the consummation of time. (2 Baruch 29:3-8)

As the first redeemer [Moses] caused manna to descend, as it is stated, "Because I shall cause to rain bread from heaven for you" [Exod. 16:4], so will the latter redeemer [the Messiah] cause manna to descend. (Midrash Rabbah on Eccl. 1:9)

You will not find it [manna] in this age, but you shall find it in the age to come. (Mekilta on Exod. 16:25)

It [the manna] has been prepared for the righteous in the age to come. Everyone who believes is worthy and eats of it. (Midrash Tanchuma, Beshallah 21:66.)

- F. "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors": The Eschatological Jubilee Year

¹ At the end of every seven years you must cancel debts. (Dt 15:1 NIV)

³⁹ "If any of your fellow Israelites become poor and sell themselves to you, do not make them work as slaves. ⁴⁰ They are to be treated as hired workers or temporary residents among you; they are to work for you until the Year of Jubilee. ⁴¹ Then they and their children are to be released, and they will go back to their own clans and to the property of their ancestors. (Le 25:39–41 NIV)

¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Lk 4:17–19 NIV)

- G. "Do not lead us into temptation/the time of trial"

¹⁷ Why, O LORD, do You cause us to stray from Your ways And harden our heart from fearing You? Return for the sake of Your servants, the tribes of Your heritage. (Is 63:17 NASB95)

¹⁷ "Then My anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide My face from them, and they will be consumed, and many evils and troubles will come upon them; so that they will say in that day, 'Is it not because our God is not among us that these evils have come upon us?' ¹⁸ "But I will surely hide My face in that day because of all the evil which they will do, for they will turn to other gods. (Dt 31:17–18 NASB95)

⁷ 'Alas! for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is the time of Jacob's distress, But he will be saved from it. (Je 30:7 NASB95)

II. PRAYER FOCUS: THE REDEMPTION OF THE HOLY PEOPLE

- A. That God would send a provoking witness to the remnant of His people

¹ Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. (Ro 10:1 NASB95)

¹¹ I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous. ¹² Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!... ¹⁵ For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? (Ro 11:11-15 NASB95)

⁶ I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, ⁷ and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth. (Is 62:6-7 NIV)

B. That God would hasten the redemption

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. (Lk 2:36-38 NIV)

² And He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. ³ 'Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ 'And forgive us our sins, For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.' " (Lk 11:2-4 NASB95)

¹³ Do return, O LORD; how long will it be? And be sorry for Your servants. ¹⁴ O satisfy us in the morning with Your lovingkindness, That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. ¹⁵ Make us glad according to the days You have afflicted us, And the years we have seen evil. (Ps 90:13-15 NASB95)

¹⁶ "O Lord, in accordance with all Your righteous acts, let now Your anger and Your wrath turn away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; for because of our sins and the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people have become a reproach to all those around us. ¹⁷ "So now, our God, listen to the prayer of Your servant and to his supplications, and for Your sake, O Lord, let Your face shine on Your desolate sanctuary. ¹⁸ "O my God, incline Your ear and hear! Open Your eyes and see our desolations and the city which is called by Your name; for we are not presenting our supplications before You on account of any merits of our own, but on account of Your great compassion. ¹⁹ "O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Your city and Your people are called by Your name." (Da 9:16-19 NASB95)