

Radiant Church, March 13, 2016  
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**A Disciple's Heart...is Zealous for God's Reign  
Matthew 6:10**

**Matthew 6:10** *Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

“Your Kingdom come” and “Your will be done” are enlargements, amplifications of “Hallowed be Your Name”

This is a view to the past. God is already holy, so He is already King  
**Psalm 24:1** *The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.*

God has always been sovereign, in control, the King  
The reality of the Kingdom is not in question, it's our seeing and acknowledging the Kingdom - because we still see so many contrary evidences in and around us

This also looks to the future, where the verb “come” refers here to a decisive time in the future when the Kingdom will come once and for all - when Jesus will return, judge the world, usher in His redeemed and set up His eternal Kingdom

**Revelation 11:15b** *The Kingdom of the world has become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever*

Our evil hearts will finally be pure  
Our lying, deceit, distrust and shame banished  
Mental wards and penitentiaries gone  
And all of our words and actions will be done to the glory of God

Some may say that this is just a utopian dream

“Utopian” is a mash up of the words “not” and “a place, like an impossible dream

But the Kingdom of God is no pipe dream - the Bible treats it as so sure as to be regarded, at least grammatically, as already an historical fact

“Your Kingdom come” is also for the present

Jesus' passion was for the Kingdom

**Luke 4:43** *I must preach the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other towns as well, for I was sent for this purpose.*

**Acts 1:3** *He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the Kingdom of God*

Praying for the Kingdom to come makes it personal, it requires something of us, from us

For the Kingdom always requires that God's will, not ours be done

It requires Repentance: **Mark 1:14-15** *Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe the gospel.*

My heart wants to go its own way, but being in the Kingdom means my will is bent to God's will

“Repent and believe the gospel” - to pray for the Kingdom to come is to repent, to go in a different direction, to give up what we've been previously unwilling to surrender

Praying for the Kingdom to come also demands commitment

**Luke 9:62** *Jesus said to him, No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God*

Following Jesus means we do not wistfully look back to our former lives

Third, the Kingdom is to be pursued above all else

**Matthew 6:33** *But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you*

In this there is no room for easy, do nothing, spectator Christianity

Lastly, the Kingdom of God is reserved for those who have a profound dependence on God

**Matthew 5:3** *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven*  
No one is a citizen of the Kingdom except those who have come to the end of themselves and turned to God, because He is the only remaining option

Praying “Your Kingdom demands a commitment from us, and this produces a Spirit-directed life that makes a noticeable, observable difference

Kingdom citizenship impacts our most intimate relationships

Lives are influenced for Jesus, and we some of those lives changed by the reality of the gospel

Kingdom citizenship rejects the corrupt social structures of our day, and participates in the redemption of a city

Kingdom citizenship lives out the Beatitudes in dependence on God

Kingdom citizenship is a commitment to be different, and to intentionally make a difference

When we pray “Your Kingdom come” we pray for three things

For the final and ultimate establishment of God's Kingdom

For when all of creation will freely call Him Abba, Daddy

For our being conformed to His will in this world

Meaning, we hand ourselves over to the grace of God so He  
can do with us what He pleases  
And we pray for God's rule to come to others through us  
for Jesus to work His revolutionary power in a fallen world  
In my family, my job, my city, my nation

The Church in North America, including Radiant Church here in Juneau needs to  
accept the call to respond to God's rule:

For when we stop "fishing for men" we're becoming content to just keep  
aquariums

Unity in the Bible is never mentioned for unity's sake; it is always  
Mentioned as unity for the "one purpose" - mission

The role of the Church is not to take care of Christians until they go to  
to be with Jesus; that's hospice. The role of the Church is to  
make disciples and multiply churches; that is mission

So when we pray "Your will be done" we are in effect praying for our own  
obedience

Obedience is an all or nothing proposition - and this runs contrary to how we,  
on our flesh want to operate. We are pretty comfortable with partial  
obedience, obedience to the things of God that don't hurt, don't cost us too  
much, don't require radical change in our lives and lifestyles

Julian was the Roman Emperor who tried to reverse the decision of Emperor  
Constantine that Christianity should be the religion of the Roman Empire. He  
tried to reintroduce the worship of the ancient gods. In the end he was  
mortally wounded in battle in the east. Historians tell us how, when he lay  
bleeding to death, he took a handful of his blood and tossed it in the air,  
saying: "You have conquered, O man of Galilee."

We can say "Your will be done" through clenched teeth, or through a sense of  
resignation and defeat, but that is not the tone of joyful obedience

When we pray "Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven," we're saying:  
That we ourselves will live in deep obedience; that our obedience would  
be the supreme desire of our lives  
And that our obedience would be boundless, joyful and enthusiastic  
Like it is in heaven, right now, as we speak

So how do we even imagine doing this?

It all goes back to who God is, to whom we are praying to - our Father  
It is to pray for, as **Romans 12:2c** says comes from our Father's own hand  
*...what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect*

God our Father is a good Dad. He wants what is good and acceptable and perfect for us, His children

We want to, we have to want to be in the Scriptures, daily, all the time, so we can know His will. If we're honest, this is where we can be lazy. But it's not really laziness, it's really the deep-seated fear that we won't like what it says, what God's Word calls us to be and do.

And we have to be willing to believe, to take God at His Word, that in our obedience to Him we will find our greatest joy

Instead of compromising for a temporary, false joy in our will being done

Obedience to God is an act of the will

**Romans 12:1** *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship*

When we pray the Lord's Prayer:

We're praying that God's name will be made famous throughout the earth because he alone deserves to be glorified.

Praise God because the day is coming when everyone in heaven, earth, and under the earth, will bow and confess that Jesus is Lord.

We're praying and asking that God will speed-up Christ's return and usher in the kingdom.

You are looking forward to the grand reversal of all things, when sin and death will be no more. Rejoice because everything (including yourself) is going to be made new. Pray and ask God to bring more people into the kingdom and to show you how you can help.

And we're praying to ask that God's rule and reign would be further demonstrated in the lives of His children. Ask that God's people would joyfully obey his commands and reflect his love to the watching world.

Don't pray for God's Kingdom to come, if you're not willing to be a part of its announcement and coming!

We're praying for our own obedience, because our greatest desire is for this:

**Philippians 2:9** *"Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under that earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

And this:

**Revelation 21:1-4** *"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying `Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.'"*