

Lord's Prayer Part 4 : Lesson Notes

“Hallowed Be Thy Name”

Matthew 6: 9-14

The word “Hallowed” means sanctified, holy, or set apart.

When we pray "Hallowed be Thy Name" we recognise that God is holy, and also undertake to live our lives in a way that brings honour to Him and helps to spread his reputation throughout the world.

Exodus 20 : 7

God's people are not to misuse God's name or take it in vain. Certainly it is never to be used as a curse word, nor is it to ever be used casually or carelessly as a joke. Christians are never to bear His name thoughtlessly.

Exodus 6 : 1-7

When God revealed Himself to Moses, the name used is Jehovah (YHWH). This Name is linked to God's covenant with Israel and His saving act of grace. It is clear that God's revealed name had great significance to His people and indicated His covenant keeping love for them.

When we say we would like to know someone, what we mean is, we would really like to know his character and personality. When we say a person or a business has a good “name”, we usually are referring to the reputation rather than the name itself. Similarly, God's name is associated with his attributes and reputation.

The name of God is holy because God is holy. He has chosen us (Christians) for the same purpose that he chose the Israelites, to bear His name and He wishes to make us holy the glory of His name. Through this, testimony will be born to all the nations of God's person and attributes.

The holiness of God's name and His willingness to invest it in a people lies at the heart of Biblical teachings on sanctification (**Ps. 23:3, 79:9; Romans 1:5**). God will change us and conform us to the image of Christ in order to demonstrate His holy character. God has so identified with His people that His character is displayed and His glory made known as He is powerfully at work changing us.

Bearing the name of God is both a gracious gift from God and an awesome responsibility. God intends to glorify His name in all the earth by calling forth a people who will be forgiven and changed for the honour of His name.

God is known by various names in the Bible, and a study of these is a study of the very character and reputation of God. Some of those names are:

1. **Elohim – Almighty God, Creator.**
2. **Jehovah – The God who reveals Himself to us.**
3. **El-Shaddai – God blesses us.**
4. **Adonai – He is our owner and master**
5. **Jehovah-Jireh - He is our provider**
6. **Jehovah-Rophe – He is our healer**
7. **Jehovah-Nissi – Our banner in warfare**
8. **Jehovah M'Kaddesh – Who sanctifies us**
9. **Jehovah- Shalom – Our peace**
10. **Jehovah-Tsidkenu – Our righteousness**
11. **Jehovah-Rohi – My Shepherd**
12. **Jehovah- Shammah – Is there with us.**
13. **Immanuel – God with us.**

As we pray "Hallowed be Thy Name" we are praying that God's character and reputation will spread throughout the world, as people observe and get to know those of us who belong to Him.

Our lives should reflect that we know God as the almighty God and creator, the God who reveals himself to us, the God who blesses His people, who provides for us and is our healer and banner in warfare, as the God who sanctifies us, is our peace and righteousness, our Shepherd, and that He is with us.

As we pray "Hallowed be Thy Name" we are praying that we will do nothing to dishonour or disgrace His name or reputation before the world.