

## HC 122 – Pray That God’s Name will be Revered

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: There are 6 petitions in the Lord’s Prayer. Today you will learn of the 1<sup>st</sup>. But take note of something first: these 6 petitions start with praise of God and end with praise of God. This is a perfect principle. As long as it is possible, you should begin and end your prayers with praise. It shows you understand who God is – his holy majesty- and you understand who you are – his humble servant. In these 6 petitions you will not only see what you should pray for, but also why you should pray for those 6 things. This means we will take some time to study some doctrine in the process of learning to pray.

This 1st petition is a call for God to make his name holy through his children.

Our headings are:

To Hallow God’s Name you must know him

To Hallow God’s Name you must worship him

To Hallow God’s name you must serve him

Our goals are: That you would be moved to pray “hallowed be your name” with your heart, soul, strength, and mind.

122 Q. WHAT DOES THE FIRST REQUEST MEAN?

A. Hallowed be thy name means, Help us to really know you, to bless, worship, and praise you for all your works and for all that shines forth from them: your almighty power, wisdom, kindness, justice, mercy, and truth. And it means, Help us to direct all our living– what we think, say, and do– so that your name will never be blasphemed 受羞辱 because of us but always honored and praised.

### To Hallow God’s Name you must know him

1. What does “hallow” mean? “Hallow 神圣” means to make or keep holy or to reverence 崇敬 someone or keep him in high respect. From “hallow” we get “Halloween” which is a combination of “hallow” and “eve.” Halloween is the day before Hallowed Day, which is also called All-saints Day. Hallowed men are men who are revered or saints. So Halloween is a good name; what is done on that day is not good. Now when you hallow God’s name you hallow God. God’s name represents his person. Of course you can’t make God holy in his essential nature 本质 He is already perfectly holy, but you can make God holy in the sense that you treat him as holy and that you cause others to treat him as holy.

2. In order to hallow God you have to know God. You have to know his person. You have to know his qualities. You have to know his plan of salvation. In other works you must know his Word. You must know God’s work throughout history 历史 also. (This means that you must read outside of the Bible as well!)

3. When you really know God – know who he is and what he has done...in the Bible (special revelation 特殊启示, in nature (general revelation 普遍启示), and even history, you will bless, worship, and praise him. Let us look at some sections of special revelation...and consider how well you know your Savior.

Jeremiah 9:23 Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; 24 But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD.

Consider the good he does to those who go to him and enter into covenant with him.

Jeremiah 31: 33 "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 34 "No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity 罪孽, and their sin I will remember no more."

Jesus verified that without knowing God you cannot know truth. God is the source of truth 神是真理的根源. Man corrupted truth because of his fall into sin. Man corrupted truth because of his evil desires.

Matthew 16: 17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

This same thing Jesus reiterated 重复 in the famous High Priestly Prayer 大祭司的祈祷. You must know God experientially.

John 17: 3 "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus

Christ whom You have sent.

And for natural revelation: If you don't take time to see God's nature, you won't praise him well. And for historical acts: If you don't read well you will not be able to perfectly praise God for his work. To pray properly, read properly. And notice how this point flows to the next main point: When you know God, you will worship him better.

## **To Hallow God's Name You Worship Him**

### **1. You hallow God's name when you worship and praise him. What are some things for which you must worship him?**

- a. **You praise God for his unlimited power – on earth and in heaven.** That almighty power is seen in the creation of the world, and it is seen in the saving of wretched 可怜 sinners.
  - b. **You praise God for his wisdom.** You see his wise way of creating and sustaining the world and you see his wisdom in working out salvation in the lives of mankind. For example: Jesus came at a time when it was historically perfect for him to come. There was peace. There was a common language. There was security. There were roads for traveling. There was a limit to Jewish power. There was respect for other religions. What wisdom.
  - c. **You praise God for his kindness.** Even while man waited for Messiah (Christ) to come, God protected and provided for his people and kept that line of promise. Men tried to stop it, but couldn't.
  - d. **You praise God for his justice,** a justice that is permanently established so man would know exactly what God required. God does not have changeable justice like civil governments today.
  - e. **You praise God for his mercy.** For example, God did not destroy the world as he could have done when man sinned. Rather, God mercifully prepared a way back to him and told Adam and Eve about that way back through Jesus Christ – that eternal sacrifice for sins.
  - f. **You praise God for his truth.** God did not hide truth from man. For example: God told man exactly what his condition was and how he could be redeemed. Man cannot understand truth; it is (and can) only be explained by God. Without God your framework for truth is corrupted 没有上帝你真理的框架破坏的. So studying the doctrine of God can never be boring to the child of God.
- Are there other reasons for praising God? Absolutely, but these 6 highlight some key attributes that you must know.

### **2. Look at some scriptural for hallowing God's name.**

**The great Prophet Moses** showed an example of what God expects of those who know his work.

**Exodus 34:5** Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.<sup>6</sup> And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, **merciful and gracious, longsuffering,** and abounding in **goodness and truth,** <sup>7</sup> "keeping mercy for thousands, **forgiving iniquity** and transgression and sin 赦免罪孽、过犯和罪恶, **by no means clearing the guilty,** visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation." <sup>8</sup> So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped.

**The godly King David** dedicated much of his life, including his nights, to bless, worship and praise God for who he was and what he had done. He wrote down many of the songs we use today to hallow God.

**Psalms 145:3** **Great is the LORD,** and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable. <sup>4</sup> One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts. <sup>5</sup> I will meditate on the **glorious splendor** of Your majesty, And on **Your wondrous works.** <sup>6</sup> Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, And I will declare **Your greatness.** <sup>7</sup> They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, And shall sing of **Your righteousness.** <sup>8</sup> The LORD is **gracious and full of compassion** 有怜悯, Slow to anger and great in mercy. <sup>9</sup> The LORD is good to all, And **His tender mercies** are over all His works. <sup>10</sup> All Your works shall praise You...

**The weeping prophet Jeremiah** praised God as all-seeing - omniscient. He knew that God saw the plight 苦境 of the righteous and God saw the wickedness of the enemy.

**Jeremiah 32:16**"Now when I had delivered the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the LORD, saying: <sup>17</sup> 'Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made **the heavens and the earth by Your great power** and outstretched arm 你曾用大能和伸出来的膀臂创造了天地. There is **nothing too hard for You.**

**Even the saintly Mary** understood that she should praise God for her salvation in Jesus Christ.

**Luke 1:46** And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> And my spirit has rejoiced in **God my Savior.** <sup>48</sup> For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. <sup>49</sup> For He who is mighty has done **great things for me,** And holy is His name. <sup>50</sup> And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with His arm; He has **scattered the proud** in the imagination of their hearts 驱散心里妄想的狂傲人. <sup>52</sup> He has **put down the mighty from their thrones,** And **exalted the lowly.** <sup>53</sup> He **has filled the hungry** with good things, And the rich He **has sent away empty.**

54 He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy,  
**The most educated Apostle** understood that he should praise **God** for his great knowledge.

Romans 11: 33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! 34 "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?" 35 "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?" 36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

**Surely we can conclude this 2<sup>nd</sup> point with this beautiful Psalm.**

Psalm 115: 1 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth.

Do you now see the need to need for making God holy? I don't mean to say that you should worship because others worshipped, but **note the reasons these people praised God** – for his greatness and his goodness.

### **3. When you hallow God, then you will cause others to praise God...like your children...like your family and friends...**

#### **To Hallow God's Name you Serve him**

1. Not only are you to know God and praise God for all those things mentioned, you are also to live all of your life for the glory of God: in your home, job, church, supermarket, school, on the lake, or while visiting family and friends.

Romans 11:36-12:1 - 36 **For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things**, to whom be glory forever. Amen. I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present your bodies** a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your **reasonable service**所以弟兄们，我凭着 神的仁慈劝你们，要把身体献上，作圣洁而蒙 神悦纳的活祭；这是你们理所当然的事奉。

It is especially important, even when there are troubles and tragedies in your life that you continue to serve God.

2. You are to live a life of service under the direction of God. What you think, say, and do...must be directed by him. There are no excuses based on contemporary当代situation **that will allow any excuse from faithfully obeying God's law.**

Matthew 5: 16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your **good works and glorify your Father in heaven.**

There can be no compromises妥协in serving the Lord, as popular as compromises may be today.

3. You serve God so that his name will never be blasphemed褻渎; that God will never be cursed or treated with contempt because of your failure to serve him well. Like in Leviticus 10 with Aaron's sons and Israel in Ezekiel 36:16ff. Imagine the insults they brought on to God for their contempt of his name. Imagine the same contempt that many preachers have brought because of their sinful indulgence. One famous preacher died this week even as he was confessing his adultery before the church! And the press was there. Imagine if you are a Christian student in school and you cheat on a test...won't that make your fellow students have little regard for the name of your Savior?

4. You serve God, by living for Jesus Christ, so that his name will be praised. Instead of causing blasphemy to God, you cause men to praise him with clear tones of joy and thankfulness. When you stand for the principle of God's Word on civil issues or on the sports field, you cause men to hallow God's name.

#### **Conclusion:**

You must know God, his name and his nature, well. Too many people have a watered-down view of God浇了水的神观so they are never able to do the 2 things you were born to do: Worship God properly, and serve him well.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Dive **into his Word so that you know all the glorious details of his nature and of his work.** Be dissatisfied with just the knowledge that God is really, really great and he sent his Son to die for you. Know the greatness of his love, the fierceness of his anger, the awesomeness of his power, the strength of his discipline of you as a Father, his controlling of all things and using even bad things for your good, his sadness at your sins, his truth by which you can believe and live, his joy at your prayer and worship...there is so much to learn about God. **Learn to worship him-worship him as he has dictated in his word,** not based on what you may like or dislike, or what you think God might like or dislike. Only he determines how he is worshipped. If you worship in a wrong way, God's name will not be hallowed. **Serve the Lord like you belong to him,** like you are a redeemed child of King Jesus. Your walk, talk, and thoughts must reflect your knowledge of who he is and what he has done for you.

Finally, if God is not your Father, you cannot hallow his name as Christ commands you to. If you want to hallow God's name you have to become his child first, and he made that possible by his Son shedding his blood流血for your sins. This is love at its best – to give his life as a substitute代替for a sinner.