

Sunday July 7th 2013
Lord Teach Us To Pray....
Part One
Study Notes

1). Where do we find the word 'pray' used for the first time in the scriptures and what do we learn from it?

a). Where is the word 'pray' found first in the NT?

b). How is its use here consistent with how it is first used in the OT?

2). Which 2 places in the scripture do we find that which we know as 'The Lord's Prayer'?

a). In what context do we find 'The Lord's Prayer' in Matthew?

b). Read Matthew 5:1-3 – What sequence of events do we see in these verses?

c). What essentially is the subject of what we call 'The Sermon on the Mount'?

d). What does that recorded in Matthew 5:1-3 prefigure and which scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

e). Where do these verses also take us back to and which scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

f). What is common to all 3 of these events?

g). So then, within what overall context do we find the Lord's teaching on prayer in Matthew?

3). Read Matthew 6:1-8 – What contrast is presented in these verses with respect to 'charitable deeds'?

a). What is another way in which we can classify this contrast?

b). Which other verse did we look at in connection with this and what is the basis for the actions spoken of in these verses?

c). How is this same truth carried over into prayer?

d). Read Colossians 1:3 – In this verse Paul makes very clear that he is praying for the Colossians – why is this not the same as the hypocrites making known that they are praying?

e). How should we understand Paul's prayer then?

f). What does the Lord have to say about the hypocrites in Matthew 23:27 and what do we learn from this?

4). Read Matthew 6:7-8 – How should we understand the phrase, ‘vain repetitions’?

a). According to the verses what is the reason for not doing this?

b). How does the Lord deal with this later on in Chapter 6?

c). What does the Lord say in these verses that our primary focus needs to be?

d). Does not practicing ‘vain repetitions’ mean that we can’t pray the same thing more than once and how would we know?

5). Read Matthew 6:9-13 – how does v9 begin and how should we understand what we see here?

a). In v9 there are 2 things said concerning God – what are they?

b). ‘Our Father in heaven’ – these words are easy to say, but what determines their validity in the eyes of the Lord?

c). What does the Lord say to Israel with regards to Him being their Father?

d). Rather than giving Him honor, what have they done instead and how does the Lord say they have done this?

e). Which OT experience of Israel does this take us back to?

- f). What further commentary do we find in Malachi on this?
- g). With respect to 'the table of the Lord' for us, what has He provided for us?
- h). What is our responsibility with regards to this?
- i). If our actions show that we consider the table of the Lord to be contemptible, what are we really saying?
- j). What is the direct correlation that demonstrates the validity of our declaring God to be our Father?
- k). Why can this be no other way and which scriptures did we look at in connection with this?
- l). Why must 'Our Father in heaven' be the foundation on which all prayer must be built?
- m). What if this is not in place? What do we see from the OT with regards to this?
- n). What same thing do we see in the NT?
- o). If we do have the right relationship with God, which scriptures did we look at that show us the outcome?
- p). Any final thoughts?