



## PASTOR CÉSAR CASTELLANOS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER

### Understanding The Different Levels Of The Lord's Prayer

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#### The Lord's Prayer

This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-15

#### 1. Level of Redemption -- Our Father

No one can call God father if he has not been redeemed by Jesus' blood. Jesus could call God father because he had God's same divine nature. For us to be able to do the same, we must be adopted as children of God, which we can achieve by having faith in Jesus Christ.

*Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.*

John 1:12-13

#### 2. Level of Authority -- In Heaven

Through prayer we recognize that the heavens are God's throne. It is believed that the apostle Paul was carried away to the third heaven (God's heaven) and that is the reason why in Ephesians 1:17-18 the apostle longs for us believers to understand the hope that we have been called to, the riches in glory of Christ Jesus, the inheritance we have acquired as Saints and his incomparably great power for us to believe. This power raised Christ from the dead and seated him at His right hand in the heavenly places (Ephesians 1:19-23).

### 3. Level of Worship -- Hallowed Be Your Name

God's nature is holy, that is, completely separated from wickedness. Everything he created was made with the purpose of worshiping and glorifying him. That is the reason why Jesus said to the Samaritan woman that the father seeks worshippers who worship in spirit and in truth.

*Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.*

John 4:23-24

### 4. Level of Government -- Your Kingdom Come

God has established a plan for government. When we understand this, it fulfils God's divine purpose for our lives. We must accept it and spread it throughout the world. It begins with a person who grasps it, and get his family involved until it is established in every social arena. Society is in charge of choosing the representatives who make major decisions at a governmental level. This the way to have godly people as authorities.

*'When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan.'*

Proverbs 29:2

### 5. Level of Evangelism -- Your Will Be Done On Earth As It Is In Heaven

God's will is that none should perish, but that all turn to him in repentance.

*'And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.'*

John 6:39

Our commitment must be to spread God's love through his son Jesus Christ, throughout the world. We do this by sharing the good news of salvation with those who do not know Jesus.

### 6. Level of Provision -- Give Us The Day Our Daily Bread

It is God's plan that his children prosper spiritually, physically and financially. That is why John the apostle said to Gaius: *'Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well,'* 3 John 2.

## **7. Level of Forgiveness -- Forgive Us Our Debts, As We've Also Have Forgiven Our Debtors**

When we pray without having experienced God's forgiveness in our lives, and we are having granted forgiveness to those who have wronged us, that prayer has no power, because the lack of forgiveness becomes a barrier between God and us.

*'But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.'*

Matthew 6:15

*'Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.'*

Matthew 5:23-24

## **8. Level of Protection -- And Lead Us Not Into Temptation**

Man is in constant danger day after day. The temptation is always near trying to capture him. His only escape is the discipline life of prayer, where he is seeking God's protection to keep him far away from danger.

*'A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it.'*

Proverbs 20 3:3

*'Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.'*

1 Corinthians 6:18

## **9. Level of Deliverance -- But Deliver Us From Evil One**

There are two forces operating in the spirit realm: good and evil. A person that experienced the new birth has passed from darkness to light, but must constantly ask God, in prayer, to deliver him from sickness, accidents, plagues, poverty. God has promised to shower us with blessings depending on our attitude towards his word

*'He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge, who subdues peoples under me.'*

Psalms 144:2

## 10. Level of Safety -- Yours Is The Kingdom And The Power And The Glory Forever

The most stable and lasting safety that God has given us is Jesus Christ. Although Jesus died in weakness, he rose again in power and obtained authority in the heavens and in the earth, therefore all things are submitted under his feet. He is the one he gives us an assurance and trust.

*'My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.'*

John 10: 27-28

## Conclusion

Prayer is the means provided by God for every believer to establish an intimate relationship with him. It is through our persistent prayers that we can open the doors of heaven that the blessings to be abundantly poured out upon our lives. And prayer life must be disciplined since every Christian depends continually on the father.