

INTRODUCTION

God made the world and everything in it, including every man, including you and me (Acts 17). Since He is the Creator of all, He doesn't need anything from us, but we creatures need everything from Him. And He gives us our very lives, every breath of air we take, every sip of water we drink, every bite of food we eat, and every moment of time in which we enjoy all of these things (Acts 14, 17). [Then, according to His perfect wisdom and infinite power, He takes away our breath, and we die, and our bodies return to dust (Psalm 104).]

When we sinned long ago, in Adam and Eve, our first parents, we earned death for ourselves, and forfeited our right to all the good things God built into this wonderful world He created. But God, being good, being kind, forbearing, merciful, still gives us His good things. He still makes the rain fall and the sun shine. He still makes the crops grow and the livestock multiply. He still gives us strength with which to do our work, and health in which to enjoy the things we earn with our labor.

Yet we are tempted to many sinful things regarding those blessings that we enjoy by His gracious providence.

We are tempted to be anxious, to worry ourselves about how we will get enough.

We are tempted to be lazy, and not work to earn what we need.

We are tempted to work hard, but then trust in our own strength instead of in His.

We are tempted to love the good things we enjoy in creation, instead of loving the Creator Himself who gives them.

We are tempted to be greedy, never being content with how much God gives us.

We are tempted to take God's gifts to us for granted, forgetting where they come from and neglecting to give Him thanks.

How best to address these problems, to resist these temptations?

How best, as creatures to deal rightly with our Creator regarding the things of His creation?

One of the best things we can do is to pray to God in heaven about the things we need in this world. And our Lord Jesus, knowing us perfectly, has given us the right thought to think, the right words to say, by which to pray about these things.

TEXT

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Luke 11:3 Give us day by day our daily bread.

BODY

- I. In the Fourth Petition We Begin to Pray for What We Need
 - A. Petitions one through three teach us to pray to God about the things that are more directly related to His glory
 - 1. hallowed be Thy name
 - 2. Thy kingdom come
 - 3. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven
 - B. Petitions four through six teach us to pray about the things that are more directly related to our needs
 - 1. give us
 - 2. forgive us
 - 3. lead us...deliver us

- II. In the Fourth Petition, We Pray for Bread
 - A. For many people, the most basic kind of food
 - B. Bread is used here to represent all the things we need for our bodies in this world
 - C. Example: Israel in the wilderness
 - 1. manna
 - 2. water
 - a) note how Jesus said that He is the manna from heaven, and He gives the living water
 - b) we pray for daily bread that is physical, but when we think of it, we think of Jesus Christ
 - 3. quail
 - 4. clothes and shoes (Deuteronomy 29:5)
 - 5. protection from enemies e.g. Red Sea
 - D. Today
 - 1. our cars and trucks
 - a) SKY: “cars are expensive”
 - 2. our health care
 - E. Also the protection or safety that we need
 - 1. from accident
 - 2. from weather
 - 3. from crime
 - 4. from invasion

- III. In the Fourth Petition, We Pray for Daily Bread
 - A. Not that we are trying to get rich
 - B. We do well when we pray for enough of what we need, a sufficient or competent portion
 - C. It doesn't matter how much wealth you already have stored up, or how little you have; either way
 - 1. you can't eat anything yesterday or tomorrow
 - 2. whatever you have today, God can cause to be gone tomorrow
 - 3. you need provision from God every day
 - 4. having what you need always is a matter of God providing today

IV. In the Fourth Petition, We Pray for Our Daily Bread

- A. Principle: a person should work and earn what he needs; then the bread that he eats belongs to him
 - 1. Genesis 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.
 - 2. Exodus 20:9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,
 - 3. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 (10) For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. (11) For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. (12) Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.
- B. So this includes prayer that we will be able to work and earn what we need
 - 1. many things can go wrong
 - a) a person could be lazy
 - b) a person could be sick or injured
 - c) a person could have trouble finding opportunity
 - d) a person's work could fail and not yield much
 - 2. so we pray God will give us work and bless our work
- C. But in this sinful world, many times God does not provide for someone by his own work; instead, He provides by the work of others
 - 1. so if we cannot earn our own bread by our own work, we pray that God still will provide it
 - 2. it follows, then, if we find that God does provide we can earn our bread by our own work, that we pray He will help us earn enough that we have something to give to those who are in need
 - 3. so we pray God will make us generous to give and humble to receive

In the fourth petition, we pray for our daily bread; and

- V. In the Fourth Petition, We Pray that God Will Give Us Our Daily Bread
- A. We pray for the strength to work and get what we need for ourselves; we also pray that we will be able to receive and give so that needs will be met even when we or others cannot earn our bread by our work
 - B. Either way, God is the one, the only one, who ultimately can cause us to have what we need; He is God and there is no others; there are second causes, but He always is the first cause of everything; every creature that receives food and other necessities always receives them only when God gives them
Psalm 104:10-29 esp vv 27-38 “give...give”
 - C. If God were cruel and stingy, it would be a fearful things to approach Him and ask for what we need
 - D. But God shows Himself wonderfully generous by showering His blessings even upon such small creatures and birds and flowers
 - 1. birds can’t plant or harvest or gather anything into the barn; yet our heavenly Father feeds them
 - 2. flowers can’t make cloth or sew cloth into clothes; yet our heavenly Father clothes them beautifully
 - 3. His care for these lesser creatures of His proves to us that He lovingly cares for us, His greater creatures
 - E. So far is God from being reluctant to give us good things, that He so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten son
John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
 - F. Romans 8:32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

CONCLUSION

Psalms 37:23-25 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way. (24) Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the LORD upholds him with His hand. (25) I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.

So, when we pray, we pray as our Lord Jesus taught us to pray, “Give us this day our daily bread.”

9:30 Bible Study

1689.22.6

...as in private families daily...

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Psalms 55:16-17 As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me. (17) Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

Henry:

It intimates also, that we ought to pray with our families; we and our households eat together, and therefore ought to pray together.

Barnes:

The petition, moreover, is expressed in the plural number - give us - and it is evidently therefore, intended to be used by more than one, or by some community of people. No community or congregation can meet every day for worship but families. It is therefore evident that this prayer contains a strong implied command for daily family prayer. It can nowhere else be used so as fully to come up to the meaning of the original intention

Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

Dillon - Call to Worship and Opening Prayer - please pick

Willie - Scripture Reading - Proverbs 30:5-9

Stephen - Congregational Prayer

Benediction - 2 Corinthians 13:14

Rita - Prelude

Rita - Trinity 198 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" - Andrew lead

Allison - 725 "His Eye Is On the Sparrow"

Allison - Trinity 480 "It Is Well with My Soul"

Shorter Catechism

we pray that of God's free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy his blessing with them.

Larger Catechism

acknowledging that in Adam, and by our own sin, we have forfeited our right to all the outward blessings of this life, and deserve to be wholly deprived of them by God, and to have them cursed to us in the use of them; and that neither they of themselves are able to sustain us, nor we to merit, or by our own industry to procure them; but prone to desire, get, and use them unlawfully: we pray for ourselves and others, that both they and we, waiting upon the providence of God from day to day in the use of lawful means, may, of his free gift, and as to his fatherly wisdom shall seem best, enjoy a competent portion of them; and have the same continued and blessed unto us in our holy and comfortable use of them, and contentment in them; and be kept from all things that are contrary to our temporal support and comfort.

Heidelberg Catechism

Give us this day our daily bread. That is: Provide us with all our bodily needs^[1] so that we may acknowledge that Thou art the only fountain of all good,^[2] and that our care and labour, and also Thy gifts, cannot do us any good without Thy blessing.^[3] Grant therefore that we may withdraw our trust from all creatures, and place it only in Thee.^[4]

[1] Ps. 104:27-30; 145:15, 16; Matt. 6:25-34. [2] Acts 14:17; 17:25; James 1:17. [3] Deut. 8:3; Ps. 37:16; 127:1, 2; I Cor. 15:58. [4] Ps. 55:22; 62; 146; Jer. 17:5-8; Heb. 13:5, 6.

Psalm 104:27-30 These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season. (28) That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good. (29) Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. (30) Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.

Psalm 145:15-16 The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. (16) Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

Matthew 6:25-34 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? (26) Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? (27) Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? (28) And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: (29) And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. (30) Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? (31) Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (32) (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. (33) But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (34) Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Acts 14:17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

Acts 17:24-25 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; (25) Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

Psalms 37:16 A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

Psalms 127:1-2 A Song of degrees for Solomon. Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. (2) It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (58) Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Psalms 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Psalms 146:3-6 Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. (4) His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish. (5) Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God: (6) Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever:

Jeremiah 17:5-8 Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. (6) For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. (7) Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. (8) For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

Hebrews 13:5-6 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (6) So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

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for sometime soon:

Trinity 415 "God, Be Merciful to Me" - Andrew lead