

Matthew 12; Lord's Day 49
THY WILL BE DONE

- I. For what we pray.
 - A. The will of God's command is His desire/pleasure for the moral attitude and conduct of His moral creatures (Romans 12:2).
 - B. God's will is revealed and known.
 - 1. The Bible is the revelation of God's will – the only revelation of it, and thus is the infallible rule for obedience.
 - 2. God clearly and unambiguously reveals His will in His law.
- II. As the children of our Father, we pray that His will be done.
 - A. Implied is that that we also have a will, which is always limited and dependent, unable to determine correctly right and wrong.
 - 1. Sin corrupts our will, so we naturally and proudly want to do the opposite of what God wants (Job. 21:14; Rom. 8:7).
 - 2. Re-birth enables believers to will correctly, i.e., to do God's will.
 - B. First, this petition is a request for grace to deny ourselves (Matt. 16:24).
 - C. Second, we are asking for the grace of obedience.
 - D. Third, we are asking for the grace to “perform the duties of our station and calling.”
- III. “As in heaven” is added to indicate what kind of obedience we want, namely, we lovingly desire to please our heavenly Father.
 - A. The angels in heaven are rational moral creatures who perfectly do God's will (Psalm 103:20,21; Isa. 6:2,3).
 - B. “As” refers to the kind of obedience.
 - C. While not yet perfectly delivered from sin, it is our Father's will that we desire perfection and constantly pray for it.