

**Intro:**

Concluding the WLC series with Conclusion to L.P. (Mt. 6:13b): READ WLC Q&A 196.

Main Point of Text: The vision of heaven shows God ruling on His throne with Jesus at His side and an uncountable number of Christians happily and thankfully worshipping Him with the angels because they are with the most wise, powerful, glorious, honorable Lord of Lords: it is forever and ever true and worthy of trusting in.

Sermon Point: *Pray with Hope and Happiness.*

**Move 1: Know that you have good reason to pray to God and praise the LORD: Himself.**

LC: “teacheth us to enforce our petitions with arguments, which are to be taken, not from any worthiness in ourselves, or in any other creature, but from God”. He is worthy:

- Dan. 9:18: *O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold ... we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies.*
- Rom. 15:30: *Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; Pray to/for God.*
- This is what the “for” is there for in L.P.; Mt. 6:13: “for thine is”, lit. “for *of you* is”. Reasons for answer not just *for* but *of* God. Each 6 petitions fulfilled w/in reasons of 3 summary points.

LC: “and with our prayers to join praises, ascribing to God alone eternal sovereignty [kingdom], omnipotency [power], and glorious excellency [glory]”: He reveals His glory/we reflect it. 1 Chr. 29:9-13.

**Move 2: Remember that nothing is impossible with God, so boldly ask Him for big things.**

LC: “in regard whereof, as he is able and willing to help us”: Eph. 3:20-21: *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.* Would cause could.

LC: “so we by faith are emboldened to plead with him that he would”: Luke 11:13: *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?* So the conclusion teaches you to think/ask big of your infinite God!

**Move 3: Do not doubt that God is accomplishing all that He promises and tells you to pray for.**

LC: “so we by faith are emboldened to ... quietly to rely upon him, that he will fulfil our requests.”:

- 2 Chron. 14:11: *... Asa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee.*
- Ps. 62:8: *Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.*
- Thus at the end of our prayers together we say *Amen!* Expression of certitude based on certainty.

LC: “And, to testify this our desire and assurance, we say, Amen.”:

- Rev 22:20-21: *He which testifieth these things saith, **Surely** [diff. word, “yes, truly”] I come quickly. **Amen.** Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **Amen.***
- “Amen”: summary of the summary. From Hebrew: “truly, true, firm, faithful, trustworthy” saying:
  - Includes vehemence: Jn. 3:3; Jn. 16:23 [trans., “verily, verily”]
  - With “Amen”, we express our “desire” [conviction] and “assurance” [confidence]. Hope and happiness! Amen: truly, “so let it be, so it shall it be, so it is”. To petitions and arguments!
- Each Gospel, almost every epistle, ends with **AMEN!** And Revelation. A theme. Rev. 7:9-12:
  - Seems to answer ? at 6:17: who will be left standing. Reassurance before opening last seal.
  - Structure of chapter (J. Beeke): Vss. 1-8, Church Militant on Earth is sealed with redemption and conquering. Vss. 9-17, Numberless Church Triumphant in Heaven is rewarded and reigning. Stress is on triumph by overcoming. Both are present realities. Your future reality!

L.P. “forever and ever”. T. Ridgeley: God never changes, so our happiness that depends upon Him is immutable.”:

- Heb. 13:8. Rev. 19:11; 21:5, 22:6. Jesus is true and faithful, so are His Words, So,
- ... *this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:* (1 Jn. 5:14).
- Pray with “desire and assurance”: conviction and confidence. Hope and happiness.

### **Conclusion:**

History of early church was to have congregation end/answer minister’s prayer with “Amen!” Biblical:

- Neh. 5:13: ... *And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.*
- Neh. 8:6: *And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.*
- Ps. 106:48: *Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the LORD.*

So may say “Amen” together in our hearts/out of our mouths at the end of Rom. 16:20; 2 Cor. 1:20; Gal. 1:3-5; Eph. 6:24; 1 Tim 1:17; 2 Tim. 4:18; Jude 1:25; 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Cor. 13:14 (evening benediction); WLC Q&A 1 and its text: Rom. 11:36!

**Pray with Hope and Happiness.**