

8/3/2020 Matthew 6:9; (Isaiah 6:1-8); Jeremiah 6:10-17 ***“Hallowed be Thy name – May your holy name be honoured.”***

Isaiah, like Moses before him, found that when he was given glimpse of greatness & glory & holiness of God, in God’s presence, the uncleanness of his own life & his unworthiness was shown up, but God still called him. Today, the Lord invites us to stop where we are & invites us too, to respond. ***“Here I am. I will go. Send me!”***

“Hallowed be Thy name” “May your holy name be honoured”

In Hebrew, someone’s name signified a revelation of that person’s character. To pray that God’s name be hallowed is to pray that He will be honoured.

So often we look around our society and see that God’s name is dishonoured – many people pay no attention to Him or his laws.

But do we willing to do anything about that? We should!

But first, we should start by praying that God’s name is honoured in our own lives & in the church to which we belong, as well as in the society around us.

Do we honour or even consider God in the ways that **we** spend money, make our choices & go about our daily business?

Do we honour or even consider God in how the church conducts much of its business....

In practice, are buildings or things considered more important than people, lost without God?

& how we act...& what we say as & after we leave after Sunday worship speaks volumes about whether we take God seriously & for real & honour Christ in our lives.

“Your holy name be honoured”

. Jeremiah is sometimes called the gloomy prophet because he was passing on God’s warnings to the people of Judah that disasters faced them if they didn’t turn back to God: conquest by Babylonian army - much of Jerusalem reduced to rubble - famine.

Why? Because they were persisting in rejecting the God, who made & loved & cared for them.

Like a promiscuous wife throwing herself at worthless men even strangers,
- everyone & everything but her good faithful loving husband.

Jeremiah 6 gives a picture of a society that is rotten, not a single grape worth picking, everyone wanting be a millionaire,

consciences dead, no shame;

people not wanting to follow the Maker’s instructions in the Bible,

not wanting to accept the offer of a personal relationship with God, or God’s ways.

& a Church largely silent.....afraid to offend people & daring only to offer soothing words....., afraid to challenge.....or to point to Christ as way, truth & life.

Jesus offers rest for our souls – Matthew 11:28-30 –

**Not a do-nothing holiday but re-direction & a travelling companion.
God puts stumbling blocks in the path of those rushing headlong to disaster:
& the greatest stumbling block is the outstretched arms of Jesus on the cross.**
Psalm 51– O Lord be gracious to me in thy love...Against Thee only have I sinned.

8/3/2020, Matthew 6:10 “Your Kingdom come” (10)

God's kingdom is His rule & reign. That will be complete when Jesus comes again.
But it has started!

This kingdom broke into history when Jesus came for the first time.

In His life, what He was & did, Jesus demonstrated that God was present.

When we pray, **“your Kingdom come”**, we are praying for God's rule & reign to come both in the future **and** in the present. & that Jesus be “number one” in our lives.

Jesus taught us to pray **“May Your kingdom come”** – not for our particular church congregation or denomination to grow in numbers but that more would recognise Christ as God, as Lord & King,

Jesus teaches us to pray that people would wake up & turn to ask Christ to put them right, & that they should come to know love & power & presence of Christ for themselves,

That people should be forgiven.....healed,
set free from the power of evil over their lives.....

Be filled with the Spirit,so that we may together serve & obey the King.

//////// Do we give up praying for Christ's Kingdom to come in people?

* It is said that D.L. Moody wrote down list of 100 people & prayed for them to be converted in his lifetime. 96 of them were converted by the time he died. & other 4 were converted at his funeral.

* One Christian mother was having trouble with her rebellious teenage son. He was lazy & had a violent temper, was a liar and a thief. Later on, though he achieved success & respect as lawyer, his life was dominated by his ambition to make more money. He used & discarded a succession of women. At one stage he joined a weird religious sect & adopted all kinds of strange practices.

Through all this time, his mother continued to pray for him.

One day, the Lord gave her a vision & she wept as she prayed. She wept because she saw the light of Jesus Christ in her son & his face transformed. But she had to wait another 9 years before her son gave his life to Jesus as the age of 32. That man's name was Augustine. He went on to become one the greatest influences ever in the Christian Church. He always said it was because of Monica, his mother's prayers that he had come to his senses & turned to rely on Christ's grace.

“May Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (10)

That is not a weary resignation – “Well, God, you'll do what you want anyway so my prayers won't make any difference / Why bother!”

It is not a cop-out phrase “But your will be done” tagged onto a prayer because we don't expect God to give us what we really want so badly. It is more a releasing.....a letting go.....of the burdens that each of us so often carry: Many people are worried about decisions they are

facing. The decisions may be about major or minor issues but if we want to be sure that we don't make a mistake, we need first to think & to pray, **"Your will be done"**.

The psalmist says, **"Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him & He will act"**. (Psalm 37:5)

To pray **"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done..."** is to put ourselves in our Father's hands
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