

MARSHALL COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Thy will be done – the safe place!

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.” – Matthew 6:9,10

Many times we hear, “Prayer changes things.” Actually, “prayer” does not change anything. Only the God we pray to changes things. The reality is that when we pray “Thy will be done” prayer changes us. It changes our will according to God’s perfect will. This prayer given by Christ Jesus is actually a model prayer showing us what our

prayer life should consist of. It shows us what is most important in our prayers when we pray from our heart. Our prayers should consist of hallowing, or setting apart, God the Father’s name or reputation. Then there is a desire for the Father’s Kingdom to come, and lastly the Father’s will to be done.

When we pray “Thy will be done,” we are speaking about submission. Now, the world and the devil makes submission out to be a negative thing. Even as Christians, when we speak of God’s will immediately negative thoughts pop up. In fact some have bitter

resentment when praying, “Thy will be done,” believing that God is a Cosmic-Killjoy ready to rain on their parade. Others pray “Thy will be done,” in a fatalistic way, knowing they should - but in reality their heart is not in it. This passive fatalistic devotion has the attitude of “Whatever God!” Lastly, some pray “Thy will be done,” with a fearful attitude of “Don’t hurt me.” Interpreting that God’s will always brings pain and sorrow because when Christ prayed then came the sorrow of the cross. All three of these ideas about God’s will push us away from our Heavenly

Father, which is the ploy of the enemy. Christ’s model prayer is for the purpose of drawing us near to our Heavenly Father.

Jeremiah 32 is one good example that describes God’s will for us. In verse 37 God says, “I will cause them to dwell safely” and then in verse 41 God says, “Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good.” So the truth about God’s will is that “Thy will be done” is a safe place and it is a good place for us. Just as a highway has yellow and white lines with a guardrail along the side to protect us and keep us safe on the road. So it is

with God’s will. At times the road may be smooth or the road may be rough, either way our Father’s will is to keep us safe on our pilgrim journey through this life on the highway to our heavenly home.

Understand that God’s will for us is not a burden, it is not a bitter pill, and it is not to be feared. My prayer is that we would come to the full assurance of faith that God our Father’s will is the good place. Yes, it is the safe place that we should desire.

David C. Hale, pastor
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