



Lord's Prayer (3): *Your Kingdom Come*

Westminster Larger Catechism Q. 191. What do we pray for in the second petition?

A. In the second petition (which is, Thy kingdom come), acknowledging ourselves and all mankind to be by nature under the dominion of sin and Satan, we pray, that the kingdom of sin and Satan may be destroyed, the gospel propagated throughout the world, the Jews called, the fullness of the Gentiles brought in; the church furnished with all gospel officers and ordinances, purged from corruption, countenanced and maintained by the civil magistrate; that the ordinances of Christ may be purely dispensed, and made effectual to the converting of those that are yet in their sins, and the confirming, comforting, and building up of those that are already converted: that Christ would rule in our hearts here, and hasten the time of his second coming, and our reigning with him forever: and that he would be pleased so to exercise the kingdom of his power in all the world, as may best conduce to these ends.

What is God's Kingdom anyway?

The Kingdom of God / Kingdom of heaven:

Mark 1:15

Matthew 13:11,19,24,31,33,38,41,43,44,45,47,52...

Acts 1:6-8; 28:30-31

Psalm 2 What is God's response to the rebelliousness of mankind (v4-6)? What does God call all of them to do (v12)?

Daniel 2:44

Why God's Kingdom needs to come

The reign of sin, death, hell, the devil

The devil is called... 2 Cor 4:4

Mark 3:27

Revelation 12:10

God's kingdom is God reclaiming the world for himself

Under his anointed

incarnate

king

Matthew 12:22-29 Whose Kingdoms are discussed here? Who is the 'strong man' in v29, and who is plundering his house?

How and When does God's Kingdom come?

Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

How does God's Kingdom grow?

When does God's Kingdom arrive?

The coming Kingdom of Christ is at the centre of what we as Christians believe in and proclaim.

Revelation 11:15

The Kingdom and the Church

Jesus is the King of the Kingdom and the head of the church

1 Corinthians 12:3 The Church is those who confess Jesus is Lord

So when we pray *Your kingdom come* we are praying for...

The conversion of individuals (delivered from Satan's kingdom into Christ's kingdom (Colossians 1:13)

The driving back of the kingdom of Satan, in his dominant lies and false beliefs for all mankind (i.e. The overcoming of atheism and other false religions)

The growth of the church

The health and flourishing of the church in godliness, Christlikeness, and unity

The day of Christ's return to come swiftly (Revelation 22:20)

We are *praying* for these things

- We are aligning ourselves with God's plan for the rest of history. A radical dethroning of self. We are praying for one other than us to be king. And that act is at the heart of repentance.

- Notice again that it is God who brings these things about. The conversion of nations, individuals, and the growth of Christians in faith, harmony, maturity, is in his power alone to give.

What would you say...

The important thing about religion is that it's a personal choice.

'God's in his heaven – all's right with the world' (Robert Browning)

A good church is one which makes people feel spiritual.

It's no-one's business what everyone else believes.

Jesus' main mission was to take us to heaven forever.

Jesus' main mission was calling out injustice and oppression.