

The last part of the Lord's Prayer is not in some Bible translations but I think it is wise to leave it in rather than remove it. If it was in some manuscripts that is good enough for me. Besides, it is a very fitting ending to the prayer to praise God in this way. As we have prayed through the prayer we have encountered God in various ways.

Our God is a Father who deserves special adoration and reverence. When Jesus prayed he often called him HOLY Father. We also should treat his name as one who is the ultimate in purity and yet one who is magnanimous in love. His kingdom is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. His will is good and he is generous in giving.

When we pray 'forgive us' we are reminded of Jesus' blood sacrifice payment for our massive sin debt. We are thankful for the Holy Spirit who leads us in our daily walk and for God's protection over us. Now let us continue as we look at the last sentence in the prayer.

### **THY KINGDOM COME**

It is our nature to want to rule, to exercise power over others or to remain on the throne of our life. History is filled with those who sought to rule nations and kingdoms. It all began with Satan who sought the throne of Almighty God. It never ends well for usurpers. I had a short period of my life between age 18-22 when I thought I could run my life quite well, but God never stamps his blessing on rebellion. On Dec.31, 1972 I went to a Sunday night service at Christ Memorial Church in Holland, Michigan. I remember nothing from the service, but I do remember quietly giving my life fully back to Jesus as I sat in the back row. Only two persons knew of the encounter that evening, Jesus Christ and myself. That was sufficient for the moment and a key turning point in my life.

Jesus will return to earth as King and Lord. Every knee will bow and acknowledge that he is Lord. In a future lesson we will discuss 'Operation Footstool'. Whenever we close this prayer, it can be a reminder that God is the royal ruler of the universe and deserves our humble submission and obedience.

### **THINE IS THE POWER**

The God we pray to is awesome in might and power. All things are possible for him. Isaiah 40 portrays to us the might of God and yet his tenderness.....40:10-11. To Him the nations are like a drop in a bucket. 'He brings out the starry host one by one and calls them each by name. Because of His great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.' 40:26. Human leaders can only be trusted with some power. That is one reason God scattered the people at the tower of Babel. He saw the danger of concentrated power of people in one place. He scattered the people and gave us nations with borders. They are protections against leaders who would seek to rule the whole world. The United Nations may seem like a good idea to mankind, but their main flaw is that they were founded on the verse in Isaiah 2:4.....'they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.'

You may ask, what is wrong with that grand purpose? They ignore the one mentioned in the surrounding verses who alone can bring that to pass.

**"He will teach us His ways...He will judge between the nations / Isaiah 2:3,4**

Jesus is the one referred to in this passage. I remember the first sermon I preached in Siberia, Russia in 1993. It was on Isaiah 2. After the meeting a journalist came to me and said that she wanted to become a believer in Jesus Christ! Jesus had the power to create the universe and will one day transform this decaying world into a wonderful paradise once again. He was able to

change that atheist journalist into a new creation in Christ Jesus. His dunamis power is still at work today in mighty ways. We can keep asking and believing in Him. He is Lord!

### **THINE IS THE GLORY**

Jesus revealed some of God's glory while he walked this earth. It is a weighty presence that will bring such awe and exhilaration when experienced in its fullness. We get glimpses in this life. Peter referred to it 'as joy unspeakable and full of glory'. However, we ain't seen nothin' yet. When Jesus returns the fullness of God's glory will be revealed and all mankind will see it. - Isaiah 40:5

'The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.' - Habakkuk 2:14

Jesus returns in blazing fire with his powerful angels, the glory and majesty of his power will be revealed to all. Those who know him will rejoice, but those who did not truly know and follow him will not. - 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10, Revelation 1:7. We finish this prayer with awe of God. The last book of the Bible does the same. He is revealed in all of his glory and majesty. The book is about Him and the central focus is.....**Who will you worship?**

Jesus is the first and the last. He spoke the first word and will get the last word. We close the Lord's Prayer knowing that He is faithful and true. The word true could also be translated Amen. Jesus is the Faithful and Amen. One meaning from the Old Testament has Amen as representing the idea of 'God faithful King'.

### **YES AND AMEN!**

We finish our prayers with the word 'Amen.' It is the seal of approval and authority in our prayer that is based upon God's Word and the 'Divine Yes' of Jesus Christ. The word Amen means: Truly this shall be so, this is the way it's going to be, Faithfully will this be so. One of my favorite verses for confidence in prayer is based on the words of Jesus.

'If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be given you'. - John 15:7 NIV

All of our prayers go through Jesus on the way to our Father in heaven. When we ask according to his Word he says YES to our request. There are 7700 promises in the Bible. Of course we must look at the context of them, but God says that the YES to them is met through Christ's finished work. Therefore, we just need to agree with that and say Amen to the glory of God!

'But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not "Yes" and "No". For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you and me and Silas and Timothy, was not "Yes" and "No", but in him it has always been "Yes". For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God."  
- 2 Corinthians 1:18-20 NIV

God comes along with a promise in his Word and it has been sealed in the Blood of Jesus. In Jesus we are joint heirs with him. We have a legal right to God's promises and can thus say AMEN.

God speaks, we say Amen. God fulfills it through our agreement with his Word because he is faithful to his Word.

"Amen is ordering our life by God's invisible plan which is being worked out" - Malcolm Smith

The Talmud teaches homiletically that the word Amen is an acronym for:

**EI melekh ne eman = God Trustworthy King**

Isaiah 65:16 twice mentions God as the God of Truth or in the Hebrew...the God of Amen. Whenever Jesus spoke the words "Verily, verily" or "Truly, truly", he was saying Amen, Amen. Whenever he spoke a word twice it was meant for extra emphasis (perhaps he knew we would find it hard to believe what he was saying since it sounded so incredible)

Our Bible is a book based on Blood Covenant. In fact the term Testament alludes to that fact. Jesus is the ultimate covenant keeper. Notice the title he has when he returns to the earth once more.

'I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called **FAITHFUL and TRUE.** / Revelation 19:11

The last words of Jesus in the Bible are these... "Yes, I am coming soon." / Revelation 22:20 That is the last promise in the Bible and the culmination of all that preceded. We can joyfully echo the words of the Apostle John.

**AMEN. COME LORD JESUS !**