

Sermon ~ Sunday, December 25, 2022, by Pastor Dwight Benoit

Text: Matthew 6: 9-13 (9a, b)

Title: "The CHRISTian Prayer!"

**CHURCH**, it's **praying** time!!! Not that we ought not **pray** every day, but it's **praying** time!!!

With all the *technological advances* of our day [the Internet, Instagram, Cell phones and Face timing] their *purpose*—is to increase our ability to communicate with each other(s), not just hearing them but seeing their faces. *What a difference time has made* [from Party-lines to dime Pay-phones, from the kitchen window to phones in our pockets and in our ears.]

We have **The Gift of Prayer** now, but **The Bible** teaches that one day, we will see **GOD** face-to-face... "For now we see through a glass, darkly, but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as I am known." (I Corinthians 13: 12)

For now, we must depend on **CHRISTian Prayer** which demands a "relationship *with GOD!*" In this text, **JESUS** is teaching **The CHRISTian Prayer!**

### 1. **The CHRISTian Prayer is to know you are Praying to the right GOD.**

**Prayer** is like your Bank Account. Surely you would be bent out of shape if you *deposited* your hard-earned money into the wrong account. You must *know* the bank; the bank account number and you must *make deposits* to *make withdrawals*. Or it's like sending an *intimate text* meant for your secret friend named Paul or Paulette and you accidentally hit Pastor...

**CHRISTIANS** don't **pray** like those of other religions... *our GOD is different... our GOD is real... our GOD is GOD... our GOD is our FATHER!* **The Bible** teaches that there are 'other *gods* that are *demons* in disguise...' "For all the gods of the nations *are* idols: but **The LORD** made the heavens." (Psalms 96: 5)

**CHRISTIANS** do not **pray** to *idols* or *demons*. *Idols* and *demons* do answer **prayers** to keep you **praying** to them.

\***CHRISTian Prayer** is **Trinitarian**. That is, to **The FATHER**, *through* **The SON**, **JESUS**, *by* **The HOLY SPIRIT**, since **JESUS** alone is *our* **MEDIATOR**, I Timothy 2: 5, "For *there is* one **GOD**, and one **MEDIATOR** between **GOD** and men, **The Man CHRIST JESUS.**" Real **prayer** is distinctly **CHRISTian**.

Note and focus...

a. **Adoration**, that is, real **prayer** is devotion, reverence, exaltation, worship.

Notice **JESUS** taught 'two simple terms and two simple **TRUTHS**— "Our **FATHER!**"

*One*, The **CHRISTian** must *know* **GOD The FATHER** has lovingly "*adopted*" him or her as **HIS** beloved child. Romans 8: 14-17, "For as many as are led by **The SPIRIT of GOD**, they are the sons of **GOD**. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received **The SPIRIT of Adoption**, whereby we cry, **Abba FATHER**. **The SPIRIT HIMSELF** beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of **GOD**: And if children, the heirs [beneficiaries]; heirs of **GOD**, and joint-heirs with **CHRIST**; if so be that we suffer with **HIM**, that we may be also glorified together."

Two, The **CHRISTian** must have a new *spiritual* Church family with other brothers and sisters who also *call on GOD* together as “*Our FATHER!*” [*We devote to HIM; we reverence—adore, worship the ground our FATHER walks on; we exalt, praise HIM; glorify, magnify, and bless HIS Holy NAME!*]

This is real... some people claim a relationship *with GOD* as their **FATHER**, but they are not connected to *brothers* and *sisters* in **The Church Family**... but when **The FATHER** gets news that **HIS** children are fussing and fighting...**HE** brings the family back together *by any means possible!* [such as, *love one another* (John 13: 34), *encourage one another* (I Thessalonians 5: 11), *serve one another* (Matthew 20: 28), *forgive one another* (Ephesians 4: 32), *pray for one another* (James 5: 16) ... **CHRISTianity** is like *tennis*, it does not work as a *solo sport*. *On the other side*, some people have a relationship *with The Church*, but they are not connected to **GOD** as “*Our FATHER.*” They enjoy **The Church** “*giving*” but cheaply (if any thing) *give* back to **The Church**. | John 5: 11-15, “And this is the record, that **GOD** hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in **HIS SON**. He that hath **The SON** hath life; *and* he that hath not **The SON of GOD** hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on **The Name of The SON of GOD**; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on **The Name of The SON of GOD**. And this is the confidence that we have in **HIM**, that, if we ask any thing according to **HIS Will**, **HE** heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of **HIM.**”

## 2. **CHRISTian Prayer** happens naturally for those who realize that **GOD** is “*Our FATHER.*”

We know that although “we are seen in this *physical realm—earth, as GOD’S human family,*” “we are connected to the *unseen realm—heaven, as GOD’S spiritual family.*”

Right now, in the “*unseen realm*” angels, watchers, holy ones, heavenly hosts, the courts of judgment, cherubim’s, seraphim’s, the archangels, commanders, divine counsels, the morning stars and **sons of GOD**... are all praying/worshipping, *singing* and *praising GOD*, just as we in this “*seen realm*” on earth.

*Our FATHER is KING! HE rules over all times, all Kings, all nations! HE rules over all history: past, present, and future. NOthing is outside of HIS AUTHORITY. HE is SOVERIGN! HE is in charge... it maybe HE’S not in control, but shout anyway,* “And we know that *all things* work together for good to them that love **GOD**, to them who are the called according to **HIS** purpose.” (Romans 8: 28)

“For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, not things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from **The Love of GOD**, which is *in CHRIST JESUS our LORD.*” (Romans 8: 38. 39)

“If **GOD** *be* for us, who *can be* against us? **GOD** spared not **HIS** own **SON**... [on a hill called Calvary... there **HE** died... in Joseph tomb **HE** was buried... after 3 days, on Sunday morning **GOD** raised **HIM** from the dead... granting **HIM** *ALL* power in heaven and on earth!] how shall **HE** not with **HIM** also freely give us all things? (Romans 8: 31, 32)

“**Our FATHER**” in the morning! “**Our FATHER**” in the noonday! “**Our FATHER**” late at night!