

Thy kingdom come

In 1 Peter 2:9, we are told “you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” We belong to the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the Prince of peace.

Isaiah 57:15 says “For this is what the high and exalted One says—he who lives forever, whose name is holy: ‘I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.’” The kingdom belongs to the high, exalted One—our God—but He lives both in heaven and in the hearts of those who are humble and repentant. Jesus himself reassured his listeners that “God’s kingdom is within you!” (Luke 17:21)

In light of this, why are so many prayers wish lists of things we want God to do for us? It is true that nothing is impossible for God, nothing is too hard for the One who made heaven and earth by His great power. He is all-knowing, discerning what we will say before we pray. His love is unconditional and limitless. We are His. So why are we not declaring His praises, seeking His will, and obeying His command to love as He first loved us?

Take time to

- Consider how a child of the King of kings should act—are your thoughts, words, and actions pleasing to God?
- Ask God to reveal to you where you need to repent or be more humble
- Act on the knowledge that God’s kingdom is within you and choose to be grateful and at peace with God, others, and yourself

Pray “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come...”