

"OUR DAILY BREAD"

Matthew 6:11

Introduction: Jesus taught His disciples that God the Father is interested in the body of man as well as the soul. NEITHER is to be neglected or ignored. Jesus is now teaching that there is a need to pray for physical necessities.

God, as Father, loves and wants the best for His children. His wisdom knows what is best and His power can do that which is best for us.

Jesus encourages us to bring ALL our needs to the Father, no matter how little or large, things local and things sacred, things material and things moral. God, the Father, wants us to come to Him for physical needs.

I. THIS PETITION RECOGNIZES GOD AS THE GIVER OF DAILY NEEDS

1. Americans boast of their high standard of living. We praise our free enterprise system that anybody can be somebody in America. We forget that all things good come from God. Americans, as well as any other human being, are DEBTORS to the generosity of God.
2. It is all too easy to deprive God of the glory that is rightfully His and attribute our gains to our skills, intelligence, luck, etc. We are not very thankful because we are not very thoughtful.
3. If we pray this petition, we are pledging recognition to God for ALL our blessings, goods, etc.
"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
and back of the flour is the mill,
and back of the mill is the sun and the shower,
and the wheat, and the Father's will."

II. THIS PETITION REQUESTS GOD'S PRESENCE IN OUR DAILY WORK

1. Daily help from God does not encourage us to idleness. God expects man to work for his living. The Bible teaches, "no work, no eat..."
2. God is vitally interested in our daily life. All that "daily bread" signifies is necessary if we are to be healthy to perform what God wants.
3. HOWEVER, our pursuit of daily bread can cause us to lose sight of what life is really all about. God tells us over and over again and again to "seek first the kingdom of God and then all these daily needs will come..."
 - As God's children, we are to live for doing God's will rather than trying to pile up a huge supply of "daily bread."
 - We do not live in order to eat, but we eat in order to live.

III. THIS PETITION RECOGNIZES OUR BROTHER'S NEED AS WELL

1. Eight (8) times Jesus used the word, "Our, We, or Us." We are to remember that there are others in God's family beside us. They, too, need daily bread.
2. We are to refrain from greedily grasping after that which belongs to a brother, and to help him, if need be, to obtain his daily needs.

CONCLUSION:

1. Jesus encourages us to trust our TOMORROWS into the hands of the Father. This will relieve us of many fears and anxious moments.
2. Psalm 37:25 - *"I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor His seed be begging for bread."*
3. We all have looked back and counted our blessings and God's activities in our lives. We must remember that God will also be in our TOMORROWS as well.