

**Russell Kelfer**  
**Hallowed Be**  
**Thy Name**

**#1331-A**

**Series: Prayer: God's "Secret" Weapon**

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# Hallowed Be Thy Name

*Creator God, Omnipotent One, One who holds in Thy hand the keys to our lives we worship you.*

*We pause Father in the midst of this active time this morning to stand perfectly still and refocus the lens of our hearts on the person of God Himself. We ask that you would cause the things of earth to grow strangely dim that we might see in the few minutes ahead of us nothing but the person of God, and that we might be able to having seen Him to worship you more perfectly. Oh how we love you. We ask now that your spirit would guide our thoughts. Remove all the extraneous thoughts from our minds and allow us to focus on the issues at hand. We ask your spirit to be our teacher and your word to be our guide.*

*In Jesus Name,*

*Amen.*

What's in a name? Do you think it is a coincidence that you are named Harry or Mary or Jane or Fred? Do you dislike your name? Do you think God cares what your name is? Why does the Bible place such importance on names? Why did God have Adam name every animal? Why did God change the names of special people when they were anointed for special work? Why, when Moses asked God if He could behold His glory, did God give Him His name? What's in a name? How does knowing what's in a name affect how we pray? The answers to those questions form the basis of our next look at the issue of prayer as we continue our journey through Matthew, chapter six, where Jesus was teaching His disciples how to pray.

Jesus began, if you'll remember, telling us how not to pray. He said let me tell you what not to do, when you pray. Don't make a show of it. Enter into your closet and shut the door and your Father who sees in secret will reward you accordingly. Having addressed the issue of privacy in prayer then He addresses the issue of the omniscience of God in prayer. He says, "Now when you pray don't

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babble on using van repetition the way the heathen do. They think they'll be heard because they talk so much. Remember your heavenly Father knows what you have need of before you ask."

Then we spent a session looking at the balance between God's omniscience and our asking. We found out that what God knows is everything. He knows what we do. He knows where we go. He knows what we think. He knows our every need long before we ask, even if we don't ask He knows. We learned that He knows when we hurt, He knows when we're lonely, and He knows when we're depressed. He knows. Then why tell Him? We tell Him because He asks us to. We learned there were at least eight reasons that He asked us to and He doesn't expect us to come to Him and give Him a sermon about our condition. Even though He knows our needs He expects us to come to Him, tell Him about them and ask Him to do something about them in accordance with His will. And in a later lesson we'll talk about that, but for this morning we continue our look at this incredible introduction to the model prayer.

So far in our last study we learned how not to pray and how to pray. And Jesus said pray like this. He said that you don't have to use these words but I want to tell you how to pray so that the principles involved will be principles you'll use when you get alone with My Father. And He began by saying, "Our Father, who art in heaven". We looked last week at what that means and the "our" meant we are to come into the presence of God not as individuals standing alone, but as part of the body of Christ at large. Our concerns are not to be just for what we need but for believers everywhere. And I asked some of you to consider last week spending time in prayer this week for the ministry and for the leadership of other churches in this city, this community and around the world who may not have the same name over the door and may not have the same theology, but who know the Lord Jesus Christ personally.

### Our Father

The word father you remember indicated relationship and the truth of the matter was because of that phrase you should never again go to God in prayer without stopping to thank Him that He has adopted you into His family by virtue of what Jesus did on that cross. And I have to ask you again this morning, "How many of you stopped this week and thanked God for your salvation?" You say, "Well, that's ancient history." No, Beloved, that's today's news.

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You're in the kingdom today because of what He did on Calvary and because of that choice you made, (a week, 10 years ago, or however long ago it was), but you should never stop thanking Him. And every time you come into His presence and say, "Our Father", you ought to fall on your face before Him and realize that the privilege of calling Him your Father is because He adopted you into His family by virtue of the blood of His precious Son.

### Our Father who Art in Heaven

In our last week's study we talked about what heaven has to do with praying. And what heaven has to do with praying is that we're supposed to remember that our Father is in heaven. And what that means is we are to see who God is by what heaven is. So every time we think of heaven there ought to be an awe of certain things about God. And we looked at those last week. One of them is His creative power. God didn't just wake up in heaven one day. God created the heavens and the earth. So every time the word heaven is used we ought to bow and thank Him for His creative power and then His power over the elements and His ownership of all things. We need to thank Him for His omnipotence, His omniscience, His mercy. He said as the heavens are high above the earth, in the same fashion, so great is his mercy towards those who fear Him. And we looked at the heavens speaking of His Sovereignty and His immutability. And then we looked at His coming again. Our Father who art in heaven. The very manner in which we approach the king ought to be affected by those words. We don't just saunter into God's presence and look around and stretch and say, "Hi God". Beloved, He is your best friend, but He is God. And so you come into His presence in awe of who He is.

This morning we continue our somewhat deliberate journey and as we move to the end we will try to speed this process up. Next week takes us to the next four words: "Hallowed be thy Name". There's that word again, name. What's it mean? I love to play with computers and I like to type things into this Bible search thing and so I typed the word name in this week and I was just going to scan through a few verses and see what the Bible had to say about names and I came up with 800.

It is not a minor principle in God's Word. Names speak of many things. Names have many purposes. And God's name is, by far, the most important name of all. We simply must come to understand what it means, for when we begin to pray, we are to begin by

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worshiping Him for His precious, wonderful, mighty name.

“Hallowed be thy name”. How many times in your life have you prayed that statement? Do you know what it means? When you pray, do you stop and reflect on what it means? We pray that this study may help us to do just that.

In this passage, Jesus was teaching us *how* to pray. He was instructing us on how to approach His Father. This is not some theological set of classroom instructions for doctrinal debate; this is the Living Son of God telling His best friends in practical, everyday terms, *how to talk to His Father*.

As He taught them, He showed them. The essence of what He was teaching them was that unless you understand just who it is you are approaching, the conversation you have with Him will not be clothed in the mantle of godliness. When you pray, pray, “Our Father” (the one who, by virtue of what He did for me at Calvary, adopted me into His precious family and made the whole body of Christ my brothers and sisters,) “who art in heaven” (the place where He dwells, which reminds me so I don’t lose my perspective, that He is everything, owns everything, is everywhere, and can do anything. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills. He owns my life. He does not simply live in heaven, He made it. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

But He is not confined to those heavens. “The heaven of heavens cannot contain Him.” He is omnipresent. Never will His compassions cease to be. They are new every morning. And as the heavens are higher than the earth, *that is how high His mercy is to them that fear Him*.

He will not leave us here. Heaven is His home, and it will be ours one day soon. He will speak from heaven, the voice of the archangel and the trumpet of God will sound, and we will be caught up together into the heavens to be with Him. Then a new heaven will be ours. Pain, suffering, disease and death will be gone. And we will be like Him, for we will see Him as He is.

Before we can pray aright, we must see our Father in heaven for who He is. *Where* He is, is in heaven; that tells us a lot about who He is, as well. But unless seeing who He is and where He is affects our heart attitude and, therefore, how we approach Him, we have only gained information; it has not changed our prayer life. So Jesus goes on: “Hallowed be thy name.”

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In other words, *because of who He is and where He lives, we must address Him in a certain way.* This means of approach is not magical. The words are not the issue. The issue is that we come to be in such awe of who it is we are coming to fellowship with, that we literally fall on our faces in absolute worship and adoration. To be reminded of who He is, is not enough. Being reminded, *we must be motivated to approach Him with the respect and awe He deserves.*

That takes care of the “Hi, God, you’ll never believe what’s happened to me” approach to praying. It is prevalent today. It is meant, with all good intentions, to remind us of God’s nearness, His friendship, and His love. But though He is near, though He is, indeed, friend of friends, and though His love stretches beyond our understanding, *He is God.* He is the omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, coming King. We must address Him accordingly. Otherwise, we will forget as we pray that we are not coming to instruct Him, but to worship Him. We are not coming to chastise Him, but to submit to Him. We are not coming to influence Him, but rather to have ever fiber of His precious will, which will often be in direct opposition to ours, take the place of our thoughts, our plans, and our goals. He is everything. We are coming to appropriate His life.

So when we pray “Hallowed be thy name”, we are, if our hearts are in tune, dying to self and acknowledging that we stand before the King of kings, falling down before Him to receive His instructions and to worship His name.

His name, of course, is what this lesson is all about. To study the names of God would take a year on its own. We can only remind ourselves in this study of the majesty of that name and fall down before Him, accordingly. You can, on your own, and I pray that you will, take the rest of your life to study the various names used to describe Him in Scripture and what they mean.

What’s in a name? That was our opening question. A name has several connotations.

### 1- Names indicate identification.

Names are used to indicate who we are, and to set apart who we are from everyone else. That’s why we give everyone names. One of the first tasks Adam had in the garden was to give names to the animals, so we could tell a zebra from a giraffe, a rhinoceros

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from a turtle.

And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field. (Genesis 2:20)

We even give our own animals names. Now that there are cats everywhere, we not only call them “cat”, we call them “Fluffy” or “Ginger” or something. Ours is called “O.C. Thomas”. The “O.C.” stands for “Old Cat”. The Thomas is because he’s a tomcat. But we did give him a name. Names are used for identification. That’s why we use name tags, so we can identify ourselves. We can set ourselves apart from everyone else. You’re not “one of them” to us, you are “Bill” or “Susie” or “Janice”, and your name sets you apart. It also serves as recognition. If you walk into a room with twenty children and call out, “Mary Sue”, chances are nineteen of those children will keep playing. But one will lift up her head, cry “Mommy” and run to you. Why not the rest? They did not recognize their name. You weren’t talking to them.

### 2- Names indicate reputation.

People cherish their good name. Once that name has been tarnished through either deed or rumor, it is almost impossible to win it back. It’s why people are so intent on “making a name for themselves”. They want their name to indicate something special. If someone has “ruined their good name,” they grieve.

### 3- Names indicate rank or position.

We add titles to names to indicate not only who is being spoken of, but *what their position is that gives them distinctive authority or rights*. Bob Smith goes to medical school. He changes his name. Now he is Dr. Bob Smith. Same person? You bet. But, now those seeking medical help know that based on his name, he has the authority to prescribe medication and give treatment. General Powell. President Bush. These are all titles that tell you not only who these people are, but what rank or position they hold in society.

### 4- Biblically, names indicate character.

From God’s perspective, names mean much more than just identification, reputation, and rank or position, though they always speak of that. In the Bible, God has indicated that He uses names to denote the character or nature or calling of a person. He even changed names on occasions when people were changed or their calling altered. You remember some of them:



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And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,  
As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt  
be a father of many nations.

Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy  
name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have  
I made thee. (Genesis 17:3-5)

And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said,  
Jacob.

And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but  
Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with  
men, and hast prevailed. (Genesis 32:27,28)

That's why no one's name is accidental. Maybe your parents gave you a name you do not like. God in eternity past determined what name you should have and what it would mean. He placed that name in your parents' heart and caused them to call you "Sam" or "Julie" or "Robert" or "Jane". There are no accidents with God. And that name has something to do with who you are or with what God wants you to become.

Names are vital to God and to you. But when it comes to the name of God, this whole concept of names blossoms into a full orchestra of praise. Each name is an instrument of His glory. When played together, they form a concert of adoration which magnifies His identification, His reputation, His rank or position, and, of course, His character or nature. That's why we are to pray, "Hallowed be thy name". The word "hallowed" means to be set apart. It means that which sets God apart from everyone and everything else. His name does that because His name is the reflector which, in essence, tells us who He really is. Until you learn to worship Him for His name and praise Him for His name, you do not really have a handle on praying. It's why we pray, "In Jesus' name". We are beseeching the Father to hear us based on who His Son is and on what His Son has done. He will.

Hallowed be thy name. What an incredible expression of worship. It means, "Dear Father, that which sets you apart from all of creation causes me to revere you, worship you, trust you, and praise you. I humble myself before you. The One who lives in the heavenlies, above all and in all and through all, I worship you." It means, "Father, there is nothing you cannot do. Hallowed be thy name." It means, "Father, there is nowhere you are not. Hallowed be thy name." It means, "Father, there is nothing you

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do not know. Hallowed Be thy name.” And it means, “Father you love me beyond my understanding. Hallowed be thy name.” Now, Beloved, once you have grasped just who it is you are praying to and addressed Him accordingly, *you are ready to pray aright.*

The names of God, then, are significant in every regard. They identify who He is. The secret is to learn to take each of God’s names, meditate on what they mean, and learn to pray them back to God as you approach His throne in prayer. As you do, you sense the courts of heaven open in your heart, the true identity of your King begins to dawn on you, and your prayer begins to take the form of a humble, grateful servant being invited to joyfully enter the chambers of the Master. Hallowed be thy name becomes the key that unlocks the secret door so you will fall on your knees as you enter the King’s court.

Hallowed be thy name. What name? Well, let’s just take a few of the names used in Scripture to describe God and see if we can experientially walk together into the Master’s throne room. Isaiah 9:6 is one of the most descriptive, beautiful passages in the Bible. The Coming Messiah is being assigned a series of names, all of which define His identity, His reputation, His position, and of course, His character and His ministry. Let’s look at it together:

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

### 1- HIS NAME IS WONDERFUL!

The first thing we notice about this passage is that though the titles were given to depict God the Son, all of the attributes of the Godhead are included. The reason is simple: Though you can separate them by function, you cannot separate them by nature, for they are one. Three offices, one person. Wonderful, Counselor... (The Holy Spirit). The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father... (The Father), The Prince of Peace... (The Son). You will notice all of the basic elements of His nature, as well. Majesty, (wonderful), Sovereign (Government will be on His shoulders), Love, (Counselor) Omnipotence (Mighty God), Eternal (Everlasting Father), and of course, Redemption (Prince of Peace). In one sentence, the nature of the Creator God is delicately drawn by the Spirit’s pen into a collage of colors, each of which expresses a different aspect of His character, yet all of which together blend into a portrait of the

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triune God, filled with majesty, wonder, and praise.

The first says “His name is wonderful”. What a precious song we sing:

*His name is wonderful, His name is wonderful,  
His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord:  
He is the Mighty King, Master of everything.  
His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord.*

*He’s the Great Shepherd, The Rock of all Ages,  
Almighty God is He.  
Bow down before Him; Love and adore Him.  
His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord.*

What a wonderful chorus to whisper in the ears of God as you approach Him in prayer, before ever another word is spoken. That’s the key. Introduce yourself to prayer by worshiping His name. That name is Wonderful! However, the word “wonderful” doesn’t really say it all in our language. It literally means, “to provoke awe; to startle, to make one astonished”. Viewing the Grand Canyon might be a “wonderful” experience. The very glimpse of its grandeur causes you to be astonished, taken aback, stricken with awe. You become speechless. You are lost in wonder. That’s just a tiny glimpse of its meaning.

In the case of God, the wonder of it all goes far beyond that. It drives us to our knees in utter humility and gratitude. That old song says it so well:

*Oh the wonder of it all, the wonder of it all  
Just to think that God loves me...*

His name is wonderful. Indeed it is. It is not wonderful the way you would describe a good meal. “That was a wonderful steak!” It is not wonderful in the way you would describe a great piece of music. His name evokes the kind of wonder you would experience were the heavens to open and you were to get a glimpse of the grandeur of glory. That is what you mean when you sing, “His name is Wonderful.” Consider this verse:

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: (Revelation 12:1)

In Psalm 139, the Psalmist is marveling at God’s daily concern for us, that He knows every thought we think and every word

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we say; that He goes before us and makes the way, then comes behind us and picks up the pieces. He concludes:

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. (Psalm 139:6)

It is beyond human understanding, this love of God. It is wonderful. It takes our breath away. It is used to describe the awesomeness of God's word in Psalm 119:

Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. (Psalm 119:129)

Over and over in Scripture, it is used to describe the things God does that evidence His deity.

Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! (Psalm 107:31)

Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered. (Psalm 40:5)

Everything God does is wonderful, because God, by nature of His being, evokes wonder in everything He is. When He works, we ought to be stricken with awe. Yet, in the day-to-day experiences of life, Satan tempts us to take Him for granted, to discount the little ways He meets our needs, brings things to pass, causes His Spirit to direct us in the way we should go. That is why the first thing we ought to do when we approach God in prayer is to declare that His name is Wonderful. Then, before you ask for a thing, stop and thank Him for the wonderful things He has done for you from your salvation even to now, and especially thank Him for the ways He has demonstrated His love and faithfulness to you since last you fell on your knees in wonder and awe.

This takes the focus off of who you are and places it on who He is. It removes the spotlight off of what you want and puts it on what He's done. His name is Wonderful. May we never forget it.

### 2- HIS NAME IS COUNSELOR!

The passage continues: "His name is Counselor". This is a marvelous word. It means "to be called alongside for comfort or direction". A counselor is someone to whom you go when you need another heart to beat with yours. A counselor is a friend

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who cares so much about you that they are willing to enter into your grief or pain or joy with you and help you to see what God is saying through this circumstance. The danger is not in receiving counsel from others. God encourages that. The danger is in *seeking counsel from those who do not have God's perspective.*

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. (Psalm 1:1)

The key is that our greatest source of counsel is God Himself. That is what His Word is for. So often, we seek the counsel of men first, when our first priority ought to be the Word of God. The counsel of men ought to be our confirmation.

I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons. (Psalm 16:7)

God as counselor, however, means more than the one you go to when you are in trouble, though He certainly is that. The counsel of God is His minute-by-minute leading through the maze of life on planet earth. He who is our Comforter is our Counselor, as well. He goes before us, He walks alongside us, He comes along behind us. He takes our hand when we arise in the morning and never lets go.

And we're like little children. You take your children by the hand to lead them somewhere and that precious little hand you feel squirming in yours and before long they pull themselves free. They don't mind walking alongside you but they want to be big and they don't want to hold your hand. And lo and behold, they trip or they run where they shouldn't run and you have to go chase after them to take them by the hand again. And that's what that word counselor means. It means God wants to take you by the hand and if you're willing to abide in Him, that is leave your hand in His all day long, you'll have the most incredible experience that can be had on planet earth.

He is your counselor. He will walk alongside you and hold your hand. But if you squirm and run away He'll let you. He'll wait until you skin your knees and come back and crawl up in His lap, take Him by the hand again and let Him be your counselor. So when you come into His presence you ought to not only be in awe at the majesty of who He is, that this God who creates wonders on planet earth and everything he does is wonder-filled, but this same God who spoke the worlds into being is available to you as

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your personal counselor. Isn't that incredible? People are really impressed if the pastor of the church is willing to counsel them. They say, "I called the church and asked if somebody could counsel me and I got to talk to the Pastor." Can you imagine calling the Kingdom of Heaven and saying, "Father, do you have anybody that can counsel me today? And then He says, "Yea, I'll do it." What a privilege. Do you get the picture? He is Wonderful, Counselor.

Imagine the miracle, then. This one who is wonderful, whose very name evokes awe and wonder and causes our hearts to leap at the mention of who He is, *is the very same friend who has chosen to take our hands in His and walk with us through the trials, tribulations, crises and events of the day.* We are so busy reacting to the events, we often do not stop minute by minute and acknowledge the Counselor's presence and protection.

That is why the moment we enter His presence and are struck by the majesty of Him whose name is Wonderful, we ought to be just as amazed and in wonder that the God who framed the universe is reaching down to take our hand and lead us, counsel us, direct us, through each and every situation we find ourselves in. His name is Counselor. Hallowed be that name.

### 3- HIS NAME IS THE MIGHTY GOD.

And then we move into the next realm and He is also Mighty God. We move from the awesomeness of His being to the tenderness of His love to the power He possesses. We move from being in awe of who He is to what He can do. The mighty God. The One who speaks and mountains quake. The One who whispers and seas part. The One who moves His hand and the winds blow, the rains fall, the earth trembles. The One who blinks an eye and all is calm. The One who owns the keys to the heavens and the control panel that determines everything that happens on planet earth. The mighty God. Look at what the Scripture says about His might:

For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD?  
who among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?  
(Psalm 89:6)

Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.  
(Psalm 89:13)

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

(Jeremiah 33:3)

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For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty  
through God to the pulling down of strong holds;

(II Corinthians 10:4)

So the hand that counsels you in the morning is so strong that not only is He capable of holding onto you no matter what you do, He is capable of taking that mighty hand and reaching out, snapping His fingers and the world would stop turning. Do you understand the power that's His? And it says the weapons of our warfare are spiritual to the pulling down of strongholds. His might has to do with spiritual power in the midst of your circumstances. He doesn't always stop the rain from falling but He's mighty to the pulling down of strongholds. He gives you spiritual power in the midst of that crisis. In the midst of that storm His hand is so mighty if you'll just let him hold on, you have nothing to fear. What a mighty God. So mighty the scripture teaches us that no yardstick exists to measure His power. The problem is we try to fight battles ourselves.

### 4- HIS NAME IS EVERLASTING FATHER.

That word everlasting has to do with both time and perspective. As far as time is concerned have you ever prayed, "Lord, I'm in a panic." I'm sure you haven't done that. "Lord, I'm in a panic. If you don't answer this today it's going to be too late." Have you done that? And the next day you go back to the Lord and say, "Lord, I'm in a panic. If you don't answer this prayer that I prayed yesterday today..." And then you realize, "Hey, wait a minute, yesterday was the deadline". God's perspective is so much broader. It's like being up in an airplane and looking down and that huge mountain that existed before you, that you thought there was no way around it when your up in an airplane looking down it's just a tiny hill. Everlasting.

The bow that wraps the package is that finally He is also the "Prince of Peace" this wonder-filled God, this Mighty God with a mighty hand who is also your counselor. The one who is everlasting, who sees things from a heavenly perspective is also the Prince of Peace. And what that literally means is, you can relax. He is, therefore nothing else matters. Your job is to bring things to Him and rest. He can handle it He's the Mighty God. Oh, the wonder of whom He is. He's the Prince of Peace. God doesn't live in peace; He gives it. It's a gift; it's a franchise. He has the only franchise; it's exclusive. He offers peace no one else

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can offer. Scripture says psychology offers peace but it doesn't last, medicine offers peace in a bottle, but it doesn't work, world leaders offer peace Eastern religions offer peace but real peace is only available through God.

### 5- HIS NAME IS PRINCE OF PEACE.

So relax. Come, Beloved, to the Prince of Peace. Having magnified His Name as the Wondrous One, having gratefully acknowledged Him as your personal counselor, having faced the enemy knowing He is the Mighty God, and having refocused the lens of your heart to eternal standard time because that is the clock an everlasting Father uses, you can quietly rest at His feet in prayer. He is; therefore, nothing else matters. He can handle any problem you bring to Him, and He can handle it however He chooses. Your job is to bring it to Him... and rest.

He is the Prince of Peace. As such, He does not simply live in peace, He gives peace as a gift to those who will receive it. He is the provider of peace. He has the exclusive franchise. The world has thousands of cheap imitations. It offers peace in all kinds of forms and from all kinds of sources. Psychology offers peace. Medicine offers peace. World leaders offer peace. Eastern religions offer peace.

But real peace, the inner confidence in God's provision that sets the heart free to be at rest amidst life's most difficult circumstances, only comes from God.

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.  
(John 14:27)

No one else can market such a product. God not only gives it free; He gives it freely. Because He awakened one day and thought it would be a good idea? No, because He is, by nature of being, perfect peace. Thus, it is His name.

The names of God. We have only touched on five of them. There are dozens of them listed in Scripture, and each is worthy of years of praise. Until you study those names and worship Him for those names, you will not fully grasp what it means to pray, "Hallowed be thy name."

Once you grasp who He is by worshiping Him for His name's sake, you begin to understand what it means to "praise His name".



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As I said we are out of time but let me give you a few things to remember because if you understand what his name is you can praise His name.

I will be glad and rejoice in Thee: I will sing praise to Thy name, O Thou most High. (Psalm 9:2)

O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise Thy name. (Psalm 74:21)

Praise the Lord; for the Lord is good: sing praises unto His name; for it is pleasant. (Psalm 135:3)

Let them praise the name of the Lord: for His name alone is excellent; His glory is above the earth and heaven. (Psalm 148:13)

You will grasp why you must never "blaspheme that name".

O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme Thy name for ever?

Remember this, that the enemy hath reproached, O Lord, and that the foolish people have blasphemed Thy name. (Psalm 74:10,18)

Instead, you are to magnify that name,

And let Thy name be magnified forever,... (II Samuel 7:26a)

His name is His identity, His reputation, His rank, His character, and His purpose. That is why He can "lead in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake" (Psalm 23:3), "pardon for His name's sake" (Psalm 25:11), "demonstrate mercy for His name's sake" (Psalm 109:21).

That is why, in order to receive salvation, you "believe on His name" (John 1:12). It is why "suffering for His name" is an honor (Ephesians 1:20,21). To believe on His name is to identify with His gift of salvation; to suffer for His name is to identify with His life by entering into the fellowship of His suffering.

It's all wrapped up in His name. That is why we pray "in Jesus' name". As we do, we go to the Father, totally identify with the Son, lay aside our reputation for His, our purposes for His, and seek to exchange our nature for His. We so desire to be identified with Him that it follows we will pray for His kingdom to come, His will to be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

But, Beloved, whenever you think of the name of God why

## Hallowed Be Thy Name

not wind up thinking of Revelation 22:3,4 and the final act of identification:

And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. (Revelation 22:3,4)

Total identification. We shall see His face, and His name will be forever engraved on our very likeness until we become just like Him. The transformation will be complete. We shall have a new name written in glory, the name Jesus. It is ours now by inheritance. It shall be ours one day by marriage. The wedding will be over, the transaction complete. His name will be ours forever.

In the meantime, we must set apart His name. We must study it, meditate on it, humble ourselves before it, always giving thanks in the name of Jesus for the name that will one day be ours. There is a movement today for brides not to take on the name of their bridegroom. That's sad. It violates the spiritual picture. The reason brides change their names is because the bride of Christ will one day at the marriage of the Lamb take His name forever and forever. Total identification. Total transformation. Total restoration.

Until then, let us always approach His precious, priceless throne by first worshiping Him for some aspect of His marvelous name. Take time to study the names of God. And for the rest of your life, each time you begin to pray, pray "Hallowed be thy name" and mean it.

Let's pray.

*Our Father and Our God who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name,*

*We worship you. By Your grace in the days to come may Your Name come to mean in our lives all it was intended to mean. That our prayer lives might become all they were intended to be.*

*In Jesus' name we pray,*

*Amen*

Hallowed Be Thy Name

HALLOWED BE THY NAME

His name is wonderful, Beloved,  
More wonderful than words can tell.  
When His name is spoken,  
It shakes the gates of hell.

The devils quake and tremble,  
The angels fold their wings.  
When e'er the name of God is sung,  
A total hush it brings,

And once we learn to worship thus,  
Life will not be the same  
When truly from our hearts we pray,  
“Hallowed be Thy Name!”

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