

06-14-2024

Prayer

Don't bother asking, "for your Father knows what things you need, before you ask Him." — Matthew 6:8

Don't ask for the Father's Name to be made holy: for there is nothing you or I can do to make the Father's Name holier than it already is. Rather express gratitude in thanksgiving that the Father, and the Son, with the Spirit have given us God's Holy Name as a free gift.

Don't ask for the Father's Kingdom to Come: for there is nothing you or I can do to make the Father's Kingdom closer than it already is. Rather express gratitude in thanksgiving that the Father, and the Son, with the Spirit have brought us God's Kingdom as a free gift.

Don't ask for the Father's Will to be done: for there is nothing you or I can do to make the Father's Will fuller than it already is. Rather express gratitude in thanksgiving that the Father, and the Son, with the Spirit have begotten (not done) us God's Will as a free gift in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

Yes, be grateful that the Father has established heaven on earth for us as a place to freely walk. Be thankful.

Our bread is already prepared for us: for, today, He gave us our Bread of Life Eternal (John 4), the Epiouision in the death of death in the death of

Christ. He is the Living Manna that matters. As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we remember His Death... with gratitude, joy, and thanksgiving.

Because of this Bread of Life, all the debts of all mankind to God are forgiven (Matthew 18). All the debts to you are forgiven, cancelled, wiped out. Rejoice, give thanks, and sing. We do not need to ask for what has already been freely given. We need to be truly grateful for such incredible freedom.

Yes, it was impossible for God to lead us into such temptation: for, God tempts no one (James 1:13). No, we created this tangled web of peril (perasmon) and temptation all by ourselves. No, the Devil did not make us do it. We were created with free will, as God has free will: it is we who have defiled this free will. Nevertheless, the Father loves His children, even when they are filthy and has delivered us from all this evil by the death of His beloved, and only-begotten Son (John 3:16)

We walk about in this freedom, and in this freedom, we stumble (paraptomata: Matthew 6:14-15) many times each and every day. The one thing that the Kingdom of God's Forgiveness cannot tolerate is a lack of forgiveness (Matthew 18)

Be grateful for all the wonderful things God has done and already given you in this life. Be grateful and forgive your neighbors all their stumbling: they're no different than you are... a few among the eight billion stumbling children of God.

And if you can forgive, then respect; and if you can respect, then love; and if you can love; then work together, cooperate for better neighborhoods of gratitude, joy, love, and peace. Help your neighbors

when they stumble, and maybe they will help you. This is the only path to The Only Free Society that exists anywhere.

The Good Samaritan wasn't such a bad guy after all.

Soli Deo Gloria.

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