



## Amen

### “The Lord’s Prayer” Series

Matthew 6:13[c], p. 811

March 8, 2020

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#### Introduction

In the doxology to the Lord’s Prayer, the church shepherds the prayer life of the Christian.

#### The Text: Matthew 6:13[c]

1) The church has given the Lord’s Prayer a God-aimed conclusion that directs our hearts and hopes.

a) *The best textual evidence would suggest the Doxology is not original to the Lord’s Prayer.*

b) *It was added as a formal conclusion very early in church history and in copies of the Bible.*

c) *It is almost certainly based on the prayer of David before the congregation of Israel in 1 Chronicles.*

Matt. 6:13[c]: *“For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen”*

1 Chron. 29:10-13: <sup>10</sup> ...And David said: *“Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. <sup>11</sup> Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. <sup>12</sup> Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. <sup>13</sup> And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.*

d) *There is biblical, historical, and pastoral warrant to include the Doxology as part of the Lord’s Prayer.*

2) The Doxology offers us important teachings on a biblical view of prayer.

a) *The Doxology summarizes the God-focused content and intention of the Lord’s Prayer.*

b) *The Doxology is how the church shepherds the Christian to submit themselves to the Lord’s prayer.*

c) *The Doxology is the church’s confession that we pray not only to God but for God.*

3) By praying the Doxology, we are declaring before God and church that we commit our lives to “our Father.”

#### An Outline of the Lord’s Prayer:

Invocation: “Our Father in heaven

(Opening call to God)

Petition 1: “Hallowed be your name”

(God’s reputation in the world)

Petition 2: “Your kingdom come”

(God’s reign over the world)

Petition 3: “Your will be done”

(God’s purposes for the world)

Petition 4: “Give us our daily bread”

(our basic human needs)

Petition 5: “Forgive our debts, as we our debtors”

(our basic spiritual needs)

Petition 6: “Lead us not into temptation”

(our internal spiritual battles)

Petition 7: “Deliver us from evil”

(our external spiritual battles)

Doxology: “For yours is kingdom/power/glory ... Amen”

(Concluding praise to God)

#### Response

Our prayer life – and Christian life – should be a reflection of our confession as children of the Father.

## Small Group Questions for Matthew 6:13[c] (Lord's Prayer Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: Why do Christians often close their prayers with “Amen?”
- 2) What is the difference between closing with “Amen” and “In Jesus name we pray, Amen?”
- 3) Is it wrong to conclude a prayer without one of these concluding statements?
- 4) Why do you think the early church would add the Doxology to the end of the Lord's Prayer?
- 5) What is the Doxology saying when it starts with the phrase, “For yours....?”
- 6) What is the Doxology referring to when it uses the word “Kingdom?”
- 7) What is the Doxology referring to when it uses the word “Power?”
- 8) What is the Doxology referring to when it uses the word “Glory?”
- 9) How does the Doxology help summarize the message of the Lord's Prayer?
- 10) How might the Doxology help the person whose prayers offer an appropriate concluding response to the Lord's Prayer?

**Further study this week:** Key biblical texts on the Prayer: Proverbs 28 (Mon); John 14 (Tues); James 1 (Wed); 1 Peter 3 (Thurs); 1 John 5 (Fri).