

(2) In noting him as "Father", there is the recognition of his role as :

-Propagator, creator of life and sustainer of men.

-Principal Person, head of life and the lives of individual men,

-Provider for and to all those who believe. In other words, when we say "Father", we are saying a great deal about who we are as well as a lot about who he is. We identify ourselves with him and make our yieldness to him.

b. A Matter of Description: Who art in Heaven.

(1) This is not intended in a spatial sense...with the poor idea of God being "up there" and widely removed from us. Some have shrunk from the prayer for that very reason...they fear it will make God remote from them. But it is not a locative and spatial idea so much as a descriptive idea. Our Father is marked with the characteristics of heaven and is beautiful and powerful thereby.

(2) These characteristics are not easily put into words (by me), but they suggest that he is overall, all present, totally powerful and marked with the beauty of the creative world. My suggestion is that the word "heaven" in this phrase be used (in a better sense, of course), like it is when we speak of something as tasting...:"heavenly".

(3) The end result is that ours is a father of unlimited proportion. No wonder the cattle on a thousand hills are his and all the earth should sing his praise.

c. A Matter of Intent: Hallowed be thy name.

(1) "Hallowed" means to be made