

a. In coming to this part of the prayer we have introduced the Luke passage. It is well to remember that some parts are phrased differently in Luke and this is also true of other portions of the Lord's teaching. You will remember that the concepts the Lord taught the disciples were not given on a once-only basis. We believe the Lord gave them again and again as repetition is a great aid in learning...especially oral learning. Therefore the somewhat different wording that occurs from time to time is not a contradictory matter but a case of repetition of an older concept in a slightly newer form so as to hold the ear of the hearer more emphatically.

b. Now, the man who prays, necessarily should think of how that prayer will be fulfilled in his life. This is true whether he is petitioning or praising. We seek a spiritual matter in the hope of its fulfillment in and with us and in this prayer of the Lord's teaching, it is striking that, immediately after our identification, stress is laid on how the prayer will be fulfilled. The method of fulfillment is not in view but the manner of our response to God... "thy will be done".

c. One discovers, at length, how necessary the will of God is. This is especially true when it comes to prayer. We are not directing the universe, simply putting ourselves at the feet of the director. Therefore when we pray it is most vital that we recall the importance of his will. In our lives with the Lord this second aspect of the prayer conditions us for what our attitude should be as we ask of the Father.

2. Discussion:

a. A Matter of Recognition: Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done.

(1) Somehow it becomes very needful that we learn to correctly recognized the