

(6:9) Hallowed be: to be counted holy; to be treated holy; to be counted and treated as different. The prayer is for men to count and treat the name of God differently, to set His name apart from all other names (see note **1 Peter 1:15-16**).

Thought 1. Hallowed be thy name is the third point to be prayed. The believer is to pray after this manner:

- 1) Father, hallowed is your name. Your name is holy, set apart, and different from all other names. There is none but you...you and you alone. You are above, before, over all...

Thought 2. Note several lessons.

- 1) **God's name is holy, righteous, and pure.** It is above, before, and over all names. Therefore, the believer's prayer is for God's name to be adored and honored by all men. (See outline **Matthew 5:33-37** and notes **Matthew 5:33-37** for a contrast in how some men treat the name of God.)
- 2) **The first thing prayer should do is praise and glorify God.** That is the point Christ is making in the words...
 - A) Our Father...
 - B) which art in heaven...
 - C) hallowed be thy name.

God has done everything; He has made the world and given life to it. Man owes his very life to God. Therefore, the first thing man should do is praise God.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above (**James 1:17**).

- 3) **The first purpose of man is to glorify God by his life: Be ye holy; for I am holy (1 Peter 1:15-16).** Life includes speech; therefore, man should be praising God's holiness by word as well as by life. In fact, since the primary purpose of man is to be holy, then it follows that the first words spoken to God should be praising His holiness. All prayer should be centered on praising God for who He is in all His holiness and fullness. His name is hallowed; different, set apart from all other names. And thank God that His name is set apart, for imagine what life would be if His name should be no more than a man's name.
- 4) God's glory is the very reason Christ came to earth (**John 17:1**). God says He shall be exalted in the earth even among the heathen (**Psalm 46:10**; cp. **Psalm 2:1-5**, esp. **Psalm 2:4-5**). How much man needs to fix his mind upon the holiness and glory of God's name!

Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen; I will be exalted in the earth (**Psalm 46:10**).

- 5) Men praise and honor each other among themselves. Men glorify men, even make idols of them.

Some are more loyal to the names of the famous (athletes, stars, politicians) than they are to the name of God.

They are more disturbed when the name of their idol is spoken of disrespectfully than they are when the name of God is cursed.

How differently Scripture presents God's name: Hallowed be thy name. God says that the man who curses His name is to be judged severely

(Exodus 20:7). Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.