

Prayer – Give us each day our daily bread

Luke 11:1-4; Matt. 6:25-34

Date: Jan 03, 2021

Place: Faith EBC

Grant Osborne in his article entitled “Moving forward on our knees: Corporate prayer in the New Testament” writes: “The formal structure of this prayer demonstrates far more than simply its main points. At the deepest level, this is a prayer to be prayed.”¹ In the New Year, we should reflect on what has past, what is, and what is to come. In relation to prayer, we should consider our praises, our requests, our intercessions on behalf of others in this past year.

In the Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels we read: “The Jews (*see* Judaism) were a praying people... The prayer of prayers for the Jews subsequently, but probably at the time of Jesus too, was the *Shemoneh Esreh*, the Eighteen Benedictions.”²

<https://tzion.org/articles/EighteenBenedictions.htm>

OT context for Jesus’ words come from two passages which relate to Israel’s history.

1. Provision of Manna for a faithless nation, Ex. 16
2. Reminder that everything we have is from God, Deut. 8:1-20
 - a. In Deut. 8:3, God humbled the nation to remind them that they weren’t to view life solely by meeting our physical need for food.

NT understanding of God’s generosity in providing for our needs

1. Read Matthew 7:9
2. Multiplication of the loaves and fish, Luke 9:10-17
3. Not to worry about life and the things we need, Matt. 6:25ff.

The Petition – three elements

1. Apportionment
2. Day to Day
3. The necessity of food – not luxuries or wants, rather the things we need, cp. Matt. 6:8, 32; Phil. 4:19.

Three things to highlight

1. Our dependence upon God – sole provider
2. Our need to ask – in humility and yet with confidence
3. God’s faithfulness to provide – what we need in the moment

Conclusion

Let read the words of Isaiah 55:1-3a, 6-11.

In Deut. 8:3 we read, “man does not live by bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.”

“Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.” (John 6:35, NIV84)

¹ Grant R. Osborne, “[Moving Forward on Our Knees: Corporate Prayer in the New Testament.](#)” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 53, no. 2 (2010): 250.

² J. D. G. Dunn, “[Prayer.](#)” ed. Joel B. Green and Scot McKnight, *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1992), 617.