

## Jesus' Model Prayer – Part 3

### The First Petition: Praying for the Glory of God's Name

#### Matthew 6:9c

#### I. What Does it Mean to Hallow the Father's Name?

The Greek verb translated *hallowed be* here is *hagiázō*, which means to “*make holy, consecrate, or sanctify.*” With reference to things it means to “*set apart for sacred purposes consecrate, dedicate* (MT 23.19),” and with reference to God's name it means to “*treat as holy, revere* (MT6.9)” (Friberg Greek Lexicon #212, BibleWorks)

1 Peter 3:15

For the Old Testament background see:

Leviticus 22:31-33

Numbers 20:7-12

On hallowing God's *name* see:

Exodus 3:14

Exodus 33:19

Exodus 34:14

John Stott has done a good job of summarizing the matter:

The name of God is not a combination of the letters G, O, and D. The name stands for the person who bears it, for his character and activity. So God's 'name' is God himself as he is in himself and has revealed himself. His name is already 'holy' in that it is separate from and exalted over every other name. But we pray that it might be *hallowed*, 'treated as holy', because we ardently desire that due honour may be given to it, that is to him whose name it is, in our own lives, in the church and in the world. (*The Message of the Sermon on the Mount*, p. 147)

#### II. Whom Do We Pray Shall Hallow the Father's Name?

Many examples in the Book of Psalms demonstrate how the people of God associated worshiping *Him* with praising and honoring *His name*. These examples also demonstrate not only a desire that God be hallowed in the life of the individual believer, but also in the lives of others and throughout the earth.

Psalm 7:17; 18:49; 22:22; 23:3; 25:11; 31:3; 63:3-5; 66:1-2; 72:18-19; 79:9; 80:17-19

For an example of how our Lord Jesus Himself demonstrated a consuming desire that the Father's name be glorified see John 12:27-28.