

Hallowed be Your Name

Jason A. Graham: The Disciples' Prayer Series

Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV) ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

This prayer, taught to the Disciples by Jesus, can lead us into revelation about God and about ourselves.

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Hallowed be Your Name

- Hallowed be Your name
 - Reveals God’s Nature
 - Reveals God’s Worth (Worthiness)
 - Reveals Action on our part

What does “Hallowed” mean?

Hallowed is a Verb. For the longest time, I just thought that it meant “holy,” but that is an adjective. He is a Holy God—this is a true statement. Holy is the adjective describing what kind of God He is. However, hallowed is not an adjective; it is a verb. Following is an excerpt from a Bible study program with the Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance explanation of the word (*hagiozo* is the Greek word for hallowed).

Hagiozo (hag-ee-ad'-zo);

Word Origin: Greek, Verb, Strong #: 37

1. to render or acknowledge, or to be venerable or hallow
2. to separate from profane things and dedicate to God
 - a. consecrate things to God

- b. dedicate people to God
- 3. to purify
 - a. to cleanse externally
 - b. to purify by expiation: free from the guilt of sin
 - c. to purify internally by renewing of the soul

So, what does that mean? Jesus is not merely pointing out that God's name is Holy (God's name also being Jesus' name as well—Jesus is God). He is saying, "Our Father in heaven, Your Name is to be acknowledged as holy." Or, "Our Father in heaven, Your Name is to be set apart—separate from all other names." Or, "Our Father in heaven, Your Name is to be honored and consecrated by us."

The fact that Jesus is using a verb here is showing Action on our part. We are to:

- Set His Name apart
- Honor His Name
- Keep His Name separate from all other names
- Not use His name in vain!
- Acknowledge His Name as Holy

This takes an active step by us. It's not just that His Name is Holy; it is to be acknowledged as Holy by us, and set apart.

The Name Above all Names

I want to be sure that you understand that the name of Jesus is now the name that is hallowed. Of course, God has many names and all of His titles are to be acknowledged as Holy. I just want to be sure that we all understand that Jesus is one of those names so that we do not use it so carelessly. Study these scriptures, and you will see that Jesus is the name of God—because Jesus is God!!!

John 17:11-13 (NIV)

¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name--the name you gave me--so that they may be one as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. ¹³ "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.

- It is interesting to note that Jesus said that He was given the name of the Father
- Jesus is God; He and the Father are One.

Isaiah 9:6 (NKJV)

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

- The child was Jesus—The Son is called Everlasting Father
- JESUS IS THE NAME OF GOD!!!

Ephesians 1:17-23 (NKJV)

¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation

in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. ²² And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

- Jesus is far above every name that can be named from now until forever.

Philippians 2:9-11 (NKJV)

⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

What Steps do I take to Hallow God's Name?

It's one thing to say that it requires action on our part and to say that the goal is to "set His Name apart," but how do we actually do that. What things do we do or not do to accomplish such an awesome goal as "setting apart" the Name of God?

"Do not Profane my Holy Name"

These passages of scripture give us an idea of how to hallow God's name.

Leviticus 22:32 (NIV)

Do not profane my holy name. I must be acknowledged as holy [HALLOWED] by the Israelites [and everyone else]. I am the LORD, who makes you holy [or Hallows you].

Leviticus 19:12 (NIV)

"Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.

Exodus 20:7 (NIV)

"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. [or takes it in vain]

Simply put, To Profane means "To Make Common." Other ways to say it would be to defile, pollute, or dishonor.

The opposite of hallowing God's name is to profane His name. Instead of setting it apart and acknowledging it as holy we would be making His name common, if we were to profane it. So, how do we avoid profaning the name of God?

These scriptures make it clear that the way we handle God's name has a great deal to do with whether we profane His name or not. These, of course, are just a few simple examples and not a comprehensive list.

- First of all (Lev 22:32), and very obviously, His name must be Hallowed, or acknowledged as holy, to not be profaned.

- This means that we begin by developing the right attitude about God’s name (Jesus, Jehovah, God, Lord, Father, Holy Spirit, etc...)
- We must first simply recognize that God’s name is Holy
- This idea grows and develops in us in at least a few different ways:
 - We read His Word and allow it to stir our hearts to life in Him
 - We pray and spend time in His presence – learning from Him
 - We worship Him
 - Tell Him that He is holy and acknowledge that His name is Holy even if you don’t fully grasp it.
 - The angels have been saying it for thousands of years and more, “Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty.” Isaiah 6
- Secondly, do not use God’s name to swear falsely
 - There is a great temptation in the prophetic climate that we live in to throw God’s name on everything that we say from the feelings that we get
 - This is a very dangerous practice.
 - I would venture to say that most of what you say is your own mind and emotions speaking to you.
 - Be very careful of adding a “Thus saith the Lord” to every idea that you get
 - This can quickly and easily turn into manipulation
- Thirdly, do not Misuse His Name or Take it in Vain as some translations of the Bible put it.
 - This can encompass so much, but I want to point out something that I feel is very important to recognize
 - We all too often use God’s name as a punch line.
 - We jokingly and flippantly use His name to lay hands on our friends and say, “Oh, Jesus... [fill in the blank] ” and laugh it off as just having some fun
 - This is making His Name Common
 - We need to honor His name, not use it in disregard, and not use it as a way to get laughs.
 - I’m not talking about being legalistic and establishing a law that causes us to feel condemned every time that we feel we may have used His name out of context, but I am talking about developing a love and respect enough for God and His name to be too reverent to ever want to Misuse His Name and, by so doing, Profane His Name.
 - The fact is this: Jesus said that the Greatest commandment is to Love God with Everything—all of our heart, all of our soul, all of our mind, and all of our strength.
 - The part of our mind and strength (the strength in our tongue) that we use to Misuse the name of Jesus is a part of us that is not Loving Him, but we are to love him with ALL of our mind and strength.
 - So, embrace a full love for God, and enjoy the process as the Holy Spirit changes you and leads and guides you into a fuller Love for Him (don’t condemn yourself for failure).

Our Call to Holiness

In discussing the fact that we are to be acknowledging God’s name as holy (setting it apart) and not profaning it, then it is important for me to point out that God says we are to Be Holy ourselves in the context of not profaning His name.

Leviticus 21:6 (NIV)

They must be holy to their God and must not profane the name of their God. Because they present the offerings made to the LORD by fire, the food of their God, they are to be holy.

Leviticus 11:45-46 (NIV) ⁴⁵ I am the Lord who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy. ⁴⁶ "These are the regulations concerning animals, birds, every living thing that moves in the water and every creature that moves about on the ground.

- We must be Holy to our God
- This passage of course was referring to the priests, and we all have now become priests according to **Revelation 5:9-10 (NIV)** ⁹ And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. ¹⁰ You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

1 Peter 1:13-25 (NIV)

¹³ Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." ¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. ²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

- This passage reveals to us how to be holy in all that we do
 - Prepare your minds for action
 - This seems kind of obscure, but in context it is telling us to be spiritually minded
 - Be Self-Controlled
 - Set your hope fully on grace
 - Be obedient children
 - By not conforming to your former evil desires
 - Live your lives as strangers here
 - In other words—don't be in love with the world
 - Have reverent fear for God
 - Love one another deeply from the heart
- IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE FOR US TO REALIZE THAT THIS SCRIPTURE IS TELLING US TO BE HOLY IN CONDUCT!
 - When Peter quotes Leviticus 11, "Be holy because I am holy", he says that we are to be holy "in all you do."
 - Why is that so important?
 - Because it is not telling us to be Holy in Nature
 - We cannot make ourselves Holy in Nature
 - God makes us Holy in Nature
 - He changes our inner man: **Leviticus 22:32 (NIV)** Do not profane my holy name. I must be acknowledged as holy by the Israelites. I am the LORD, who makes you holy

- He has redeemed us in our spirits
 - This means our spirits have been “restored to the original state of affairs” just as in the Garden of Eden before the fall of mankind.
 - Our bodies obviously are not redeemed, because we can still get sick and/or die
 - The Apostle Paul even points this out: **Romans 8:22-25 (NIV)**
²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.
- It is our choice to be Holy in Conduct
 - And that is why the Apostle Peter points out here, 1st Peter 1:15-16, that God is instructing us to be Holy in our conduct when He said, “Be holy, because I am holy.”
 - Holiness in our behavior is a Command and a Choice.
 - It is not a condition of salvation
 - It is the product of loving God
 - In the same manner, we are Commanded to not lie, but we have the choice whether or not to tell a lie.
 - We have the Choice, but not the Right
 - Our lives are not our own. We have been bought with a price. Therefore, we have an obligation to God to keep His commandments.
 - His word says that if we Love Him, then we will keep His commandments.
 - It is all a condition of love.
 - Does God really expect us to be Holy like Him?
 - God makes us Holy in our inner man.
 - He then commands us to act Holy
 - He also understands our weaknesses and shortcomings
 - For example, God’s Word tells us to be strong, but we are not to assume it is telling us to be omnipotent (or all powerful).
 - God’s Word tells us to be wise, but we are not to assume that it is telling us to be omniscient (or all knowing).
 - In the same way God tells us to be holy, but He understands that we are often weak and immature.
 - That is why our relationship with God is just that: a relationship.
 - He helps us
 - He is patient with us
 - He loves us
 - He comforts us
 - He stays with us
 - Even though he recognizes that we are weak, it is possible for us to be just like Him, because he designed us to be just like him. See my message on “Calling and Destiny”.
- So, if it is your choice to NOT be Holy in conduct, then you may not have the love and relationship with God that you have convinced yourself that you have
 - **Galatians 5:18-21 (NIV)** ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. ¹⁹The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and envy;

- drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- This does not mean that you don't inherit the kingdom of God if you ever fall in weakness or struggle with any of these things, but it means that if you choose to live like this as your lifestyle, then you will not inherit His kingdom.
 - "Those who live like this" or "Those who practice this"—like a doctor "practices" medicine. It is his chosen way of life.
- Not if you fail at trying, but if you choose to not try
 - God enjoys us even in our weakness, and He does not see immaturity as rebellion.
 - It is rebellion when we refuse to see the truth of God's Word when it is revealed to us, and we decide to still live however we want to live.

In Summary

- We must set His name apart (acknowledge that it is Holy)
- We must be sure not to profane His name
 - We must not make it common
- His name is Jesus—the name above all names
- He has called us to holiness because of His holiness
 - He makes us holy in nature
 - We choose to be holy in conduct due to our love for Him
- As always:
 - **Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NKJV)**
⁴"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! ⁵You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
 - Jesus said that this is the First and Greatest Commandment