

#23 Prayer, From the Westminster Larger Catechism, conclusion

Q196: What does the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer teach us?

A196: The conclusion of the Lord's Prayer (which is, **For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**), teaches us to enforce our petitions with arguments, which are to be taken, not from any worthiness in ourselves, or in any other creature, but from God; and with our prayers to join praises, ascribing to God alone eternal sovereignty, omnipotency, and glorious excellency; in regard whereof, as he is able and willing to help us, so we by faith are emboldened to plead with him that he would, and quietly to rely upon him, that he will fulfil our requests. And, to testify this is our desire and assurance, we say, Amen.

The God of gods and Lord of lords, the God who created all things, deserves praise and adoration from *all* people. Yet, according to his divine plan, only his chosen have any ability or inclination to acknowledge and honor him as God. Therefore, his children should praise his holy name, his mighty and merciful deeds, his forgiveness and loving kindness, his strength and power, and his protection and care of his people as their highest priority! In this way, we glorify God and enjoy him forever!

My heavenly Father, you are the one true God! The God who deserves all praise, glory, thanksgiving and adoration! The God who speaks things into existence! Your Word is pure truth, and contains power that I cannot imagine! I long to see your glory in its fullness! I pray for the eternity I will spend with you! Praising you as I should, and knowing you as you are!

Without your grace, I would still be content in my self-made grave of sin, oblivious to my hopeless condition. But you, oh God my redeemer, had compassion on me! You pulled me out of my wretched dungeon! You explained the gospel of Jesus so I could hear and understand, and you saved my soul! You sprinkled clean water on me, and cleansed me of my filthiness, inside and out! You gave me a new heart, new eyes, new ears and the gift of knowing Jesus Christ as my Savior! You made me your son, and united me with Jesus Christ, my brother, and made me a co-heir with him! Please make me believe this with all my heart! For if I did, I would always obey you and praise your name for all eternity!

Lord, may I always be humble and thankful before you! May I never take one shred of credit for anything you have done or given to me. May I always proclaim your steadfast love, and always pray that you continue to save sinners like me. I pray that I will always obey your law and all of your commands, to walk blameless before you, so that others will fear you because of my love and devotion to you.

You are the author of life, and I pray for the day when you receive all glory for all eternity! I pray in the name of the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! Amen.