

**Remnant Life Church**  
February 12, 2017  
**The Most Powerful Prayer: Your Will Be Done**  
Matthew 6:9-13

The power of words – **James 3:9** – praise God and curse man

Time magazine put out a list once of the ten greatest speeches of all time:

- Patrick Henry – 1775 Virginia Convention assembly to discuss whether or not to take up arms against the British
- Abraham Lincoln – 1863 at the Gettysburg battlefield – spoke for 3 minutes
- President Kennedy – inaugural address on January 20, 1961
- Martin Luther King, Jr. – From the steps of the Lincoln Memorial – I Have a Dream – Aug 28, 1963
- President Reagan – at the Brandenburg Gate near the Berlin Wall – June 12, 1987

Some of the most powerful prayers in the Bible:

1. Moses' prayer for God to spare the nation of Israel (**Ex 32:9-14**)
    - a. Why a golden calf?
    - b. Egyptian Apis Bull diety – god of fertility for grains and herbs
    - c. Israelites abandoning their true God for a familiar false security
  2. David's prayer of confession (**Psa 51**)
  3. Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance and healing (**2 Kings 19,20**)
  4. Nehemiah's prayer for success (**Neh 1:1-2:9**)
    - a. Persian king Artaxerxes
    - b. Report of the first wave of exiles
  5. Jesus prayer in the garden (**Luke 22:39-46**)
- Four simple words speak the greatest and most powerful prayer we can pray: **Your Will Be Done**
    - When we pray this we are inviting God to have control of our life and the circumstances we are in
    - Too many times our prayers are asking God to bless what we have already decided to do
    - When we pray these 4 words we are giving up our will to Him
  - This prayer is the antithesis of a selfish prayer
    - Most of us today have phones that are filled with apps
    - There are literally thousands of these dealing with everything from recipes and workouts to games and managing your money
    - An app, it has been advertised, will get you what you need
    - Prayer is not an app
      - Many people treat prayer as a way to get what they want with as little effort on their part as possible
      - But submission to God is what must occur first before anything else
  - **READ Matthew 6:9-13**

*“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’*

- When you pray this prayer what are you saying?

1. Your will be done...regardless of the direction

- a. Giving up your will means you no longer set the course
- b. **Gen 12:1-2** *The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing*
- c. **Jonah 1:2-3** *“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.*
- d. In order for Abraham to receive the blessing, in order for Jonah to accomplish what God called him to do and save a nation, they had to first go in God’s direction

2. Your will be done...regardless of the struggle

- a. Relinquishing your will means that you may have to go through some very difficult times
- b. If you are on a path with no obstacles it probably doesn’t lead anywhere
- c. The question for many is how do you respond to that difficulty?
- d. It may be a situation or it may be people who come against you for what you believe and stand for
- e. Oswald Chambers - *To "suffer as a Christian" is not to be marked peculiar because of your views, or because you will not bend to conventionality; these things are not Christian but ordinary human traits from which all men suffer irrespective of creed or religion or no religion. To "suffer as a Christian" is to suffer because there is an essential difference between you and the world which rouses the contempt of the world and the disgust and hatred of the spirit that is in the world. To "suffer as a Christian" is to have no answer when the world’s satire is turned on you, as it was turned on Jesus Christ when he hung upon the cross, when they turned his words into jest and jeer; they will do the same to you. He gave no answer; neither can you.*
- f. **Hebrews 11:24-26** *By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.*
- g. Today we, as Christians, as part of a church family, must look to the reward
  - i. It begins with our witness

- ii. Caution about how we respond so as to guard our witness
  - h. This prayer also means He is with you through it all
3. Your will be done...regardless of the cost
- a. This is a very difficult aspect of the Christian's life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
  - b. Material possessions are the bench mark for many people
  - c. What if, by giving over your will, God requires what you have?
  - d. You cannot honestly answer that question this morning
  - e. Jesus in the garden in emotional agony
  - f. **Luke 22:42** - *"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but your will be done."*
  - g. Jesus knew what was ahead, what He would have to face, and He was willing to pay the cost

The most powerful prayer you can pray is also one that will require the most of you.

But it will also lead in a way of living that will satisfy you to the depth of your soul because you are living to the glory of your Creator

This is what you were made for – to please God with your life as an act of worship

That will only happen when you make that simple four word prayer the cry of your heart everyday – Your Will Be Done!