

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Exodus 33:12 – 34:8

EXTRA READINGS: Apostle's Creed and Canons III/IV, art 12 (pg. 108)

SINGING: 447:1, 3 – 265:1-3 – 176:1-3 – 173:1-4

Intro: Behold the Glory of God!

CHRIST'S COMMAND IN THE FIRST PETITION

I. Be fervent about God's glory

II. Be fervent before God to demonstrate His glory to you

III. Be fervent that God would demonstrate His glory through you

I. CHRIST COMMANDS HIS PEOPLE TO BE FERVENT ABOUT GOD'S GLORY

A. In God's revelation *order and proportion* reveal what is most important

1. Jesus in teaching prayer does same as God did in His Law

a. as fallen creatures, we are the exact opposite

b. contrast that with the Son of Man (Mark 11:15-19)

B. Jesus commanded in 1st petition: *be fervent about the Father's glory*

1. It is His right as Sovereign Creator – Gracious Father

2. God is fervent about His glory: Is. 43:7; Rom.11:36; Heb. 2:10a

3. Every petition in the Lord's prayer supports this high calling

C. Be clear that none *will attain happiness, if God's glory is not your focus*

II. BE FERVENT BEFORE GOD TO DEMONSTRATE HIS GLORY TO US

A. In 1st petition we are not asking *God to be holy*

1. God's Name is already *holy* but not everyone sees or knows that

2. Are you seeing this glory of God?

3. Is this an area where repentance is needed in our prayer life?

III. BE FERVENT THAT GOD DEMONSTRATE HIS GLORY THROUGH YOU

A. This petition reminds us of our calling as God's creatures: Gen. 1:26

1. We were made to *reflect God's communicable attributes*

2. Being fallen doesn't cancel this *calling of our existence*

3. God's ultimate purpose in saving sinners *is that they are through His workmanship created unto good works!*

B. The calling of God's children is *let your light so shine that God's Name be hallowed through us!* (Matt. 5:16)

REFLECTION:

A. Is this 'visible side of salvation' clearly visible in our walk?

But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation

Without holiness no man shall see God

B. What is the only way to grow in this holiness?

1. Be in the Word

Blessed is the man that

*walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly
Nor standeth in the way of sinners,
Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful*

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

2. Be in prayer: *Hallowed be Thy Name*

THE IMPORTANCE OF HALLOWING GOD'S NAME

An unholy Christian is a contradiction of everything the Bible teaches.

'Be ye holy' is the great fundamental law of our religion. (M. Henry)

Holiness is necessary to present peace and future glory. (W. Jay)

Nothing can set aside the evidence of a holy life. It is better than a revelation from heaven. (W. Plumer)