

ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

A transformative prayer of survival, resistance, liberation, compassion and justice

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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.’”

Our Father in Heaven:

Be hallowed Your Name
Be come Your Kingdom
Be done Your Will

As in Heaven, so on Earth:

Daily Bread
Debt Cancellation
Deliverance from the coming evil

Grace Ji-Sun Kim—“These patriarchal and colonial images of God have coupled with sexism, racism, and colonialism/imperialism and have been unethically utilized for exploiting and dominating Asian American women by those who are bearers of the image of ‘God the Almighty Father’ . . . this kind of doctrine of God is not appropriate and even extremely vulnerable to be misused to sustain the women’s pain and suffering. This imagined God cannot embrace the Other, specifically Asian American women.” *Embracing the Other: The Transformative Spirit of Love (Prophetic Christianity Series)*

Exodus 3.13-14—Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

Matthew 5.45—“He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

John Dominic Crossan—“But the primary meaning of “justice” is not retributive, but distributive. To be just means to distribute everything fairly. The primary meaning of ‘justice’ is equitable distribution of whatever you have in mind—even if that is retribution or punishment.” (The Greatest Prayer: Rediscovering the Revolutionary Message of the Lord's Prayer, p. 2)

Alice Walker—“We are the one’s we have been waiting for.”

Amos 5.21-24—“I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!”

Sam Wells—“The one thing everyone seems to agree on today is that there’s plenty wrong with the world. There are only two responses to this—either go and put it right yourself, or, if you can’t, make life pretty uncomfortable for those who can until they do. When we take stock of our relationship with the powerful, we ask ourselves, ‘Does the shape of my life reflect my longing to see God set people free, and do I challenge those who keep others in slavery?’” (Introduction to Binding the Strong Man: a political reading of Mark's story of Jesus by Ched Myers)

