

Scripture Reference: Matt 6:13b

Date: September 23, 2012

Title: "A Fitting End"

Focus: Prayer is the disciples' means of affecting change.

### **Intro:**

1. If we are ready from the KJV or NKJV, "For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen," is included. If you have the NAS, that portion is in bracket. If however, you are ready from the NIV, v. 13b is omitted. Why?

2. The answer is simple, in the oldest manuscripts of the Bible, that portion is simply not there. So, what do we do?

### **Body:**

#### The *Missing Words*

- There is evidence the words of the second half of verse 13 were not uttered by Jesus. Instead they were probably added later by a scribe as a notation, and eventually inserted.

- None of the *added words* contradict what Jesus said. What they do reflect is the heart and mindset of a disciple of Jesus.

- It also needs to be noted no doctrine rests of these words.

- These words came to be appended to the prayer to express the thought that God's kingdom, power and glory would be manifested by those praying in this manner and as a result of God working in creation.

- Why pray this prayer or one reflecting the contents of this prayer, if one is not looking for God to be glorified and His kingdom and power advanced?

#### These Words Reminds of the Point to Prayer

- Prayer *is not* for the purpose of promoting one's own agenda.

- That does not preclude a person from petitioning God. However, prayer's intent is not to advance our purposes or ourselves.

#### The Purpose of Prayer is to:

##### Include God's Presence and Participation in a Situation. (*Kingdom*)

- We need this reminder. When it involves us, all we tend to think about is us.

- Do we think of God, willing to allow Him to be with us in our time of need? Are we submitted to Him and His will being realized in our lives?

- If we do not consider God, our actions can working against the will of God and grieve the Holy Spirit.

##### Bring Spiritual Power to Bear on the Human Condition (*Power*).

- As long as we seek to resolve our issues, in our own abilities, we don't need God, except maybe to bless what we do.

- As long as we try to work things out ourselves, we will not see His power evident in our lives and circumstances.

- There was a day when the disciples of Jesus did not rely on what they had or the difference they could make.

- They were totally dependent upon the working God and the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 3:6 "Peter said, 'I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth – Arise and walk!' And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened."*

- Having more natural resources today we are able to affect change. As a result, I fear we have left behind a dependence upon God.

If God's Kingdom and Power are Realized, He will be Glorified.

- God's presence and person are seen in His movement in the lives of His disciples.

- People encounter God as He lives in your life.

- If He is not realized in our lives, do we look for Him to be glorified some place else?

**Closing:**

1. Prayer affords disciples the opportunity to encounter and interact with God.

2. Prayer affords the opportunity to see the Kingdom and power of God released.