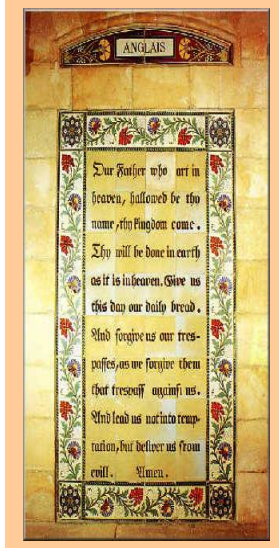


Notes and Concepts on Prayer – Dr. Paul Banting

- I cannot pray "**Our**," if my faith is centred only on myself and has no room for others.
- I cannot pray "**Father**," if I have not become God's child by asking Jesus to be my Lord and Saviour.
- I cannot pray "**Which Art in Heaven**," if all of my interests and pursuits only concern earthly things.
- I cannot pray "**May Your name be honoured as holy**," if I am not striving for God's help to live a holy life.
- I cannot pray "**Let Your kingdom come**," if I am unwilling to accept God's rule in my life.
- I cannot pray "**Let Your will be done**," in the Lord's Prayer, if I am only seeking to please myself and do my own thing.
- I cannot pray "**On earth as it is done in heaven**," unless I am ready to totally accept God's heavenly will in my life.
- I cannot pray "**The bread that we need, give us for the coming day — day after day**," without being willing to accept God's blessings and without being willing to work for it when God creates opportunity.



The Lords prayer

“Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done on
earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our
daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
And do not lead us into
temptation,
But deliver us from the evil
one.
For Yours is the kingdom
and the power and the
glory forever. Amen.”

- Matthew 6:9-13 NKJV -

- I cannot pray “**And pardon our debts towards you, because we also have forgiven our debtors**,” if I continue to hold a grudge against anyone.
- I cannot pray “**and do not lead us into lurking temptations**,” if I deliberately choose to remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.
- I cannot pray “**But rescue us from the evil one**,” if I am not willing to fight evil with my life and my prayer.
- I cannot pray “**For to You belong the kingdom**,” if I am unwilling to make Jesus Lord and King of my life.
- I cannot pray “**For to You belong the power**,” if I am only seeking power for myself and my selfish desires.
- I cannot pray “**For to You belong the glory**,” if I am only seeking to take the credit and get the glory for myself.
- I cannot pray “**For all the ages to come**,” if I am too impatient to wait for God's perfect timing in all things.
- I cannot pray “**Amen**,” unless I can put my prayers into the hands of Jesus and trust Him with everything.

Matthew 6 - Model Prayer Our Father

Rescued from rebellion: Young John Newton called himself an atheist, and his life demonstrated his lack of belief in God. Even the coarsest sailors aboard his slave-trading ship could not stand his filthy speech. He brutalized the male slaves and sexually abused the women, and he prodded other sailors to do the same. The ship's captain finally put him ashore on the coast of Africa, and there he became a servant of slavers.

Finally rescued by another merchant ship, Newton once again fouled the ship with his presence. In a drunken stupor he almost plunged overboard, and the captain wished that he had. Then, amazingly in the midst of a vicious ocean storm in 1748, God touched his heart. Years after his remarkable conversion, Newton commented, "I see no reason why the Lord singled me out for mercy... unless it was to show that with him nothing is impossible."

The fool who had said in his heart that there was no God was now transformed. He became famous throughout England, both as a preacher and a writer of hymns. Without a doubt, the best-known hymn of this former atheist is the following:

*“Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see”*

- JOHN NEWTON -

Message: True love can't exist without a free will. Giving your heart willingly to Christ will always result into a new heart - as with John Newton. When you open your heart for His Kingdom (Rule) – change of heart takes place. (See Model Prayer - Our Father – Let Your Kingdom come) The Living Word' promise - “A new heart I will give you and a new spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.” - Ez 36:26.

The Lord is a heart seeker. Nothing is impossible for Him. (Matt 19:26) Whatever you are going through, run to the throne of Almighty God. He is your Father, your (Abba, or Papa) You may be faced with many impossibilities, but know this – running to the Lord, you put an “H” in front of all your impossibilities – this makes it HIM-possible in **Jesus' Name!**