

The Park Church
Adult Study Group
“Praying the Lord’s Prayer”
Rev. Wayne E. Gustafson, D.Min.

Session 4 – “Heaven comes to Earth: Universal Compassion”
March 2, 2008

Questions and Comments from last class

Recap: “ We have remembered our source in *Abwoon*, the source of all parenting.
We have let go to clear a holy place inside for this realization to live.
From this new beginning we have clarified our goals,
realized the power of co-creation, and envisioned our next step.
Now we are ready to act.”

4. The Dance between The Heavens and the Earth

Nehwey tzevyanach aykanna d’bwashmaya aph b’arha
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven

tzevyanach (or *sevyana* or *sebyana*) – will, in the sense of desire, natural tendency, in harmony with all creation. It can also mean delight. “Its roots point to something that swells or rises, follows a certain harmony, and moves like a large crowd or a host of stars.”

Will is not something that is imposed. It is too natural for that. It is more a sense of what God wants for us than from us.

Will is not specific commands that we “do this or that” because God says so.

Will is God’s unfolding purpose. Will is what is naturally and delightfully embedded in the process of coming into being, developing, and bearing fruit.

Example: Jesus healing a man with leprosy is asked, “If you are willing, you can cleanse me.” Jesus says “saba ana!” “I have the desire-power: it is in tune with heaven and earth.”

aykanna – just as – invites a consistency between “The Unity” that vibrates throughout “the heavens” and the actions and relationships that take place within and among all particular aspects of creation (earth). Like a hologram in which the image of the whole is contained in every part.

d’bwashmaya – “the heavens”, not a specific place, but “the everything”.

arha (or ar’ah) – earth – “does not simply mean the ground or the planet Earth, but can simultaneously refer to all of nature and to any being that has individual form – from a plant to a star.”

AR- power with movement. Ardor.

“From an ‘earth’ point of view, we are an array of infinitely diverse and unique beings. From a ‘heaven’ point of view, we are connected with every being in the universe through one wave of light or sound.

Diversity within Unity is the relationship between earth and heaven.

Remember the image of Dancing: partners, in tune with each other and with the music.

Mystical Prayer

Habitual responses sometimes keep us away from being in tune with God’s will.

Use the breath prayers to be open to new responses and pray for the courage to act in a new way.

Compare what is lacking in life, personally and globally, with what inspires you within and without about life. While holding the awareness of both, use breath prayers to discover the relationship between what is wanting and what is fulfilled in your life and the life of the planet. What actions or changes are you motivated to make in your life?

Reading List

Prayers of the Cosmos: Meditations on the Aramaic Words of Jesus, Translation and Commentary by Neil Douglas-Klotz, Harper San Francisco, 1990.

The Hidden Gospel: Decoding the Spiritual Message of the Aramaic Jesus, Neil Douglas-Klotz, Quest Books, Wheaton, IL, 1999.

4. Heaven Comes to Earth: Universal Compassion

Your one desire then acts with ours,
as in all light, so in
all forms.

Let all wills move together
in your vortex, as stars and planets
swirl through the sky.

Help us love beyond our ideals
and sprout acts of compassion
for all creatures.

As we find your love in ours,
let heaven and nature form
a new creation.

Unite the crowd within
in a vision of passionate purpose:
light mates with form.

Create in me a divine cooperation-
from many selves, one voice,
one action.

Let your heart's fervent desire
unite heaven and earth
through our harmony.

Your one desire then acts with ours,
as in all light, so in
all forms.