

“Calling Upon God to Be with Us!”  
(The Invocation) 1 Kings 8:27

**<sup>57</sup> May the LORD our God be with us, as He was with our fathers. May He not leave us nor forsake us, 1 Kings 8:57 (NKJV)**

*Along with the call to worship, which is to us. At the beginning of our worship services, we have an invocation. The invocation is a PRAYER, literally a CALL to God to grace us with His presence! Because there are Three Persons in the Godhead: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, invocations are almost always addressed to each of these three Persons!*

*Hymn # 101 in your Hymnal is an Invocation -*

I. Come Thou Almighty King (A Call to God the Father) –

**<sup>9</sup> In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:9–10 (NKJV)**

1. *Just like the Lord’s Prayer, an invocation starts with God! We are inviting Him to our worship service, because He is the ONE we worship / praise / ascribe worth too –*

**Hallowed be Your name.** *is a worship statement! We are praying God’s Name would be higher in our esteem than any other, We are proclaiming Him worthy of our worship, not only on Sundays, but daily and ultimately even FOREVER -*

*Note David’s commitment to God and His praise, as seen in Psalm 145 - A Praise of David.*

**<sup>1</sup> I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever. <sup>2</sup> Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever. <sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable. Psalm 145:1-3**

2. *In the song we PRAY for God’s help, to sing and to praise -*

Come, Thou Almighty King, Help us Thy name to sing, Help us to praise:

A. *If we were not still struggling with sin, praise would flow from us naturally, almost automatically, spontaneously, it would be LOUD, fervent, and exciting! Yet, because we see in a glass darkly and remaining sin makes us SLUGGISH –*

**<sup>38</sup> Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Mark 14:38 (NKJV)**

*We pray, help us to sing! Help us to praise! Because our weakness keeps us from doing this adequately, and God’s greatness requires our very best!*

B. *Father, all-glorious, O'er all victorious,*

**<sup>11</sup> “Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders? Exodus 15:11 (NKJV)**

**15 Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: “I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! Exodus 15:1 (NKJV) God triumphs not only over Egypt’s army but through Christ, our sins!**

3. Praying for God's Kingdom / Rule and Wisdom – Come, and reign over us, ... **Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:9–10 (NKJV)**

A. *When we pray Thy or Your Kingdom come; we should realize that Kingdom much come first to our own hearts, we are praying that His Kingdom and not ours / His will and not ours will come, we are PRAYING He will rule over us! This means we must be OBEDIENT to Him -*

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, as you have always **obeyed**, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. **Philippians 2:12–13 (NKJV)**

B. *In obedience we are not 'dogs' but we are following the example of Jesus Christ –*

4. *Ancient of Days –*

<sup>9</sup> "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the **Ancient of Days** was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire; **Daniel 7:9 (NKJV)**

*In the song and in the passage of Scripture above "Ancient of Days" was a Name for God the Father it describes:*

A. *His eternity, which He shares with God the Son and God the Holy Spirit*

B. *His wisdom – which makes Him the great King He is –*

C. *We should PRAY for wisdom –*

<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. **James 1:5 (NKJV)**

II. Come, Thou Incarnate Word (A call to God the Son) –

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. **John 1:1–5 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. **John 1:14 (NKJV)**

1. *These verses identify Jesus as the Word, God's Communication to us of Himself, and the Personal Power that created everything.*

2. *They tell us He was in the beginning – ETERNAL*

3. *They tell us He was with God – ETERNAL FELLOWSHIP / LOVE*

4. *They tell us He was and is God!*

5. *They tell us He became flesh – God in our language, for our benefit!*

2. Gird on Thy mighty sword – a reference to the Word of God the Bible - <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. **Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)**

<sup>17</sup> ... and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; Ephesians 6:17 (NKJV)

A. *The Word Jesus carries a Word-Sword the Bible –*

B. *The Book of revelation pictures this sword coming from Christ's mouth –*

<sup>16</sup> He had in His right hand seven stars, **out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword,** and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. Revelation 1:16 (NKJV)

*When we pray the invocation, and we pray for Christ's presence remember too, we are Christ's body -* <sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NKJV)

*If we are Christ's Body, as His minister, speaking His Word, is not the preacher His mouth?  
Please PRAY I would be! That I would preach this Word as Jesus Christ would!*

3. We pray for the blessing of Jesus Christ –

They are ours, every one of them: <sup>3</sup> **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,** <sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, **that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,** <sup>5</sup> having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup> which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, <sup>9</sup> having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, <sup>10</sup> that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. <sup>11</sup> In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, <sup>12</sup> that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. <sup>13</sup> In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. <sup>15</sup> Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup> do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, <sup>18</sup> the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power <sup>20</sup> which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. Ephesians 1:3–23 (NKJV)

4 We pray for the success of God's Word - And give Thy word success:  
Spirit of holiness, On us descend.

The Word's success is dependent upon the power of God's Spirit Who is mentioned in the third stanza, but here too, because of His connection to Christ –

<sup>63</sup> **It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.** John 6:63 (NKJV)

### III. Come, Holy Comforter, (A call to God the Holy Spirit)

**<sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; <sup>17</sup> Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. John 14:16–17 (KJV 1900)**

1. The Holy Spirit is the Person in the Godhead Who is most with us now, Who we should PRAY for fervently ...

**<sup>9</sup> “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup> If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” Luke 11:9–13 (NKJV)**

2. *He bears a witness to Christ* – Thy sacred witness bear

**<sup>26</sup> “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. John 15:26 (NKJV)**

3. *In this glad “hour” time we set aside for special attention to God and His worship, a time to be FILLED –*

**<sup>15</sup> See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, <sup>16</sup> redeeming the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, Ephesians 5:15–18 (NKJV)**

*Only one life, it will soon be PAST, only what’s done for Christ will LAST!*

4. *Pray for the Spirit’s constant and continued presence, even despite our sin –*

Thou who almighty art, Now rule in every heart, and never from us depart, Spirit of power.

**<sup>11</sup> Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Psalm 51:11 (NKJV)**

David had seen Saul sin away the Holy Spirit and David SINNED too –

**<sup>11</sup> For Your name’s sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great. Psalm 25:11 (NKJV)**

### IV. The One in Three – (A call to the Holy Trinity)

To the great One in Three Eternal praises be

Hence, evermore!

His sovereign majesty May we in glory see,

And to eternity Love and adore!

**<sup>4</sup> “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! <sup>5</sup> You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:4–5 (NKJV)**

**<sup>14</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14 (NKJV)**