Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 52 Part 2

128. How do you close this prayer?

"For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever;" that is, all this we ask of You, because as our King, having power over all things, You are willing and able to give us all good; and that thereby not we, but Your holy name may be glorified for ever.2

[1] Rom. 10:11-12; 2 Pet. 2:9. [2] Jn. 14:13; Ps. 115:1.

129. What is the meaning of the word "Amen"?

"Amen" means: so shall it truly and surely be. For my prayer is much more certainly heard of God than I feel in my heart that I desire these things of Him.1

[1] 2 Cor. 1:20; 2 Tim. 2:13; *Ps. 145:18-19.

By reason of these remains of indwelling sin, and the temptations of sin and of the world, those who are converted could not persevere in a state of grace, if left to their own strength. But God is faithful, who having conferred grace, mercifully confirms, and powerfully preserves them herein, even to the end.

Canons of Dordt, Fifth Head of Doctrine Article 3 "Of the Perseverance of the Saints"

After having roused us to the struggle by the consideration of the enemy, and entirely removed every apology for slothfulness, He again confirms and strengthens our mind by reminding us of the King, whom we faithfully serve, and by showing that He is more powerful than all. THINE, he says, IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY. If the kingdom is His, we have nothing to fear, there being none that can oppose it, or wrest from Him the government. When He says, Thine is the kingdom, He shows that our antagonist is also subject to Him, although, so far as God permits, he makes opposition. For he is one of the number of God's servants, though he belongs to the guilty and wicked; and he will not venture, in a single instance, to attack a fellow-servant, till he has received power to do so from the Lord of all."

Chrysostom, Sacred Dissertations on the Lord's Prayer

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

1 Chronicles 29, 11-12

I. The Comfort of His Kingdom

A. The Scope

For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

Psalm 47.2

The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

Acts 17, 26-27

B. The Ruler

Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Matthew 28. 18

... by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Col. 1. 15-16

II. The Comfort of His Power

for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2. 13

... for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8. 28

The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

Romans 16. 20

the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, & to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,

2 Peter 2. 9

III. The Comfort of His Glory

In heaven we shall spend that endless eternity not so much enjoying our blessedness as in admiring God's praise and adoring His glory.

Herman Witsius

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

Revelation 4. 9-11

IV. The Comfort of "Amen"

A. Asserting our confidence

Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

John 14. 13-14

B. Expressing our desire

- ¹⁵ "Cursed be the man who makes a carved or cast metal image, an abomination to the LORD, a thing made by the hands of a craftsman, and sets it up in secret.' And all the people shall answer and say, 'Amen.'
- ¹⁶ "'Cursed be anyone who dishonors his father or his mother.' And all the people shall say, '**Amen**.'
- ¹⁷ "Cursed be anyone who moves his neighbor's landmark.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'
- ¹⁸ "Cursed be anyone who misleads a blind man on the road.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'
- ¹⁹ "Cursed be anyone who perverts the justice due to the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow.' And all the people shall say, '**Amen**.'
- ²⁰ "Cursed be anyone who lies with his father's wife, because he has uncovered his father's nakedness.' And all the people shall say, '**Amen**.'
- ²¹ "Cursed be anyone who lies with any kind of animal.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'
- ²² "Cursed be anyone who lies with his sister, whether the daughter of his father or the daughter of his mother.' And all the people shall say, '**Amen**.'
- ²³ "Cursed be anyone who lies with his mother-in-law.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'
- ²⁴ "Cursed be anyone who strikes down his neighbor in secret.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'
- ²⁵ "Cursed be anyone who takes a bribe to shed innocent blood.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'
- ²⁶ "Cursed be anyone who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them.' And all the people shall say, '**Amen**.'

Deuteronomy 27. 15-26

I have prayed, I will pray, and I have no doubt that I will be heard for I feel the Amen in my heart.

Martin Luther