

THE LORD'S PRAYER (PART III)

LESSON 15

The Sixth Petition

The sixth petition is "AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION."

In this petition we ask God to keep us so securely in his care that we will not be tempted to forsake Him and do evil. We ask Him to guard our faith so that we will not lose our trust in Him.

What are some things that you believe tempt people to give up on God and give themselves over to evil?

1. cults
2. horoscopes
3. Alcohol/ Drugs / Witchcraft

Temptations will come our way in this life. The key is not giving in to these temptations. Look up the following Bible verses for more insight into this petition.

Read I Peter 5:8,9. Who is our enemy? The devil

What does he do? Prowls around like a lion looking for someone to devour

Read Matthew 18:7. What two things are the cause of sin in this passage?

1. world
2. People

Read Galatians 5:17. What is contrary to the Spirit? our sinful nature

Who then are our spiritual enemies. Look on page 192 in *Luther's Small Catechism*.

1. the devil
2. The world
3. Sinful nature

When we pray this petition, we ask God to strengthen us so we will not give in to temptations.

Read Corinthians 10:12,13. What can we count on when temptation comes our way?

We can bear it, and there is a way to live through it

Now read Ephesians 6:11 & 17.

What "sword" do we have for our defense? God's Word

What can we do to help keep our faith strong?

1. pray
2. read God's Word
3. study God's Word

The Seventh Petition

The seventh petition is "BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL."

As Christians we are a target for the devil. Jesus was attacked by Satan and so were His disciples. We can expect the same to happen to us. Not only does Satan attack us. Who else attacks us?

The unbelieving world

We are tempted to do evil from sources outside of ourselves and also from what other sources?

Sources within ourselves.

In this petition we are asking God to protect us from both kinds of evil. We want God to give us the resources to reject evil and choose what?

Good

Read II Thessalonians 3:3. Who is faithful? God

What will He do for us? Protect and strengthen us from evil

As we ask God to deliver us from evil, He is faithful to guard us. It is easy to misinterpret this protection as a shield against anything bad happening.

Read Acts 14:22. What will we go through? Hardships

Read II Corinthians 12:9. What is sufficient? God's grace

How is God's power made perfect? In weakness

Read Proverbs 3:11,12. Whom does God discipline? Those He loves

People are often confused by the meanings of "evil" and "suffering."

Is suffering the same as evil? no

When is suffering good? when we learn from it or when we suffer for the Lord

In this petition we ask God to deliver us from evil, not from suffering.

Was Jesus' suffering evil? no

Were the sins that caused His suffering evil? yes

What is the result of Jesus' suffering? our salvation

Is this a good result or an evil result? good

Finally, in this petition we pray to be delivered from evil. We usually think of this as protection against the evils we encounter in our lives. However, there is a larger scope to this petition than this.

Read II Timothy 4:18. Where will God take us to safety? Heaven

The ultimate deliverance from evil will come when we die and go to heaven. There will be no evil there and no suffering. Read Revelation 21:4.

There will be no more what? Death, mourning, crying, pain

This is total deliverance from evil and all its consequences.

Conclusion to the Lord's Prayer

The conclusion to the Lord's Prayer is: "FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN."

Whose kingdom is being spoken about? God's

There are three parts to the conclusion. It says that (1) God's is the kingdom, (2) God's is the power, and (3) God's is the glory.

Match the following to the correct part from the conclusion to the Lord's Prayer.

B 1. Nothing is impossible for God. A. Thine is the kingdom

C 2. As we are forgiven and strengthened in faith, we praise and glorify God's name. B. Thine is the power
C. Thine is the glory

A 3. God is the king and ruler of all.

B 4. God is more powerful than any earthly government.

A 5. The kingdom belongs to God.

We can count on God to answer our prayers. Our faith in Jesus and His work on the cross is the key.

Read James 1:17. Does God change? No

Read Ephesians 3:20,21. God is so powerful He can do more than we ask or imagine.

The conclusion to the Lord's Prayer is also a doxology. This doxology is a pledge.

In this pledge to whom do we give our allegiance? God

What does the "forever and ever" tell us? God's kingdom never ends

Look on page 195 in *Luther's Small Catechism*.

What does "Amen" mean? So be it, I believe it, this is so, I agree, it will be done

What does it emphasize? God will hear our prayers and answer them

We also pray many other prayers in our life with the Lord. We must be sure at the end of these prayers to say and mean "Not my will but Thine be done."

