

Title: Lead Us Not Into Temptation, But Deliver Us From Evil

Passage: Matthew 6: 13

Passage: Matthew 6:5-13

Pray then like this:

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 also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen]

Review: The Lord's Prayer

First petition: God's name be hallowed

Second petition: God's kingdom come

Third petition: God's will be done

Fourth petition: Give us our daily bread

Fifth petition: Forgive us our debts

AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

How reconcile with James 1:13?

James 1:13

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

Temptation

- Greek word ("perazo"): "to test, to prove something is good and resistant"
- Test/trial vs. temptation = difference is the tester's motivations. Satan's temptation is for the believer to fail. God's test to sharpen character with no failure intended.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

Compare:

- Temptations: used by the devil to bring out the worst.
- Trials: used by God to bring the best out of us.

Genesis 22:1 (God tested Abraham)

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

Job 1:8 (God tested Job)

And the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?"

1 Peter 1:6-7

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Why petition to not be tested in trials?

- meaning: don't want to be in trial or tests. Don't think you are so strong to want trial (pride). Know your frame.
- When not summoned, we should wait for God's time in conflict. In this way, God's glory is magnified

Proverbs 16:18

Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Paradox: Trials are for our growth but we should not have any desire to be in those trials.

- Why? Possibility for sinning.
- Jesus in Garden of Gethsamene (prayed for the cup to be taken away)
- Our motivation should not be trusting ourselves.
- Plea: asking God to put a protective hand over us against sin.
- Petition is a safeguard against self-sufficiency

Matthew 26:33-35 (Peter's pride)

Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

Matthew 26:74-75 (Peter's fall)

Then [Peter] began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

1 Peter 5:6-8 (Peter's admonition afterwards)

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL

- in the midst of trials, asking God to protect us from falling into sin and deliver us from Satan
- Asking for courage, discernment, and strength to fight temptation to sin.

What asking to be delivered from?

- In Greek: specifically references "the Evil One"
 - "From" = word specifically references a personal object (not general term like "got book from library" vs. "got book from Joe")
- Context: Jesus was referencing to Satan

Matthew 4:1

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Satan

- Satan: a being that hates God and all His children.
- unless believe in the reality of Satan, then unable to understand evil and its implications
- Behind every sin stands Satan

Mark 8:33

But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

Dangers for Christians

- minimize Satan’s importance (failing to recognize his real spiritual power) or exaggerate Satan’s importance (seeing him behind everything; minimize our flesh and our sin)

Satan’s strategies

- Satan’s temptations are subtle - uses our basic needs and twists/portrays them as legitimate
- *Self-examination question:* Does this bring God glory (benefit Him and others) or really for myself?
 - Ex: Need for love/appreciation
 - But sinful if pursue need through adultery

Matthew 4:1-11 (The Temptation of Jesus)

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,” and

“On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

1 John 2:16

For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.

APPLICATIONS

Pray daily for God’s mercy and grace to fight temptations

- Pray God would not put us in situations where we would fail.

Proverbs 6:27-28

Can a man carry fire next to his chest and his clothes not be burned? Or can one walk on hot coals and his feet not be scorched?

James 4:4

You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Do not presume your strength against temptation

- have boundaries such that you are not going to the edge.

Do not think you can stand strong in the face of temptation (is willing to go to casino thinking can stand strong)

- Bring a godly, Christian friend with you when going into a difficult situation (ex: godly friend into Greek environment)
- Don't play with fire, you will get burned and

Pray daily for God to deliver us from the evil one

- we are in spiritual warfare (we are not on a cruise ship with occasional patches of bad weather)
- Satan is very aware and knowledgeable of human weaknesses.
- Don't take things for granted because you have a target on your back.
- Pray and fast for yourself and for others.

When you fail and sin, do not linger there but quickly repent and turn to God. .

- Our identity is defined by Christ (we are saints).
- We are saints who sin; not sinners trying to be saintly.

Luke 22:31-32

Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. *And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.*

When fail and sin, remember Jesus.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- Jesus is our advocate, interceding on our behalf.

Hebrews 7:25

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

Related Passages:

1 John 4:4

Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

2 Peter 1:3

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence