

Matthew 6:13 “Protection from evil”

“PRAY! [Matthew 6 verse 8](#) Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: *Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.*¹⁰ 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 forgive our debtors. ¹³

AND DO NOT LEAD US INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM THE EVIL ONE. Some translations say deliver us from evil, “the evil one” is a more accurate translation **FOR YOURS IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.**

Always important to keep in perspective **who we are** and **WHO GOD IS**. This wonderful prayer begins with who God is... our Father... He is hallowed... set apart, holy. It ends with who we are... sinful children in desperate need of His love and protection.

Proper prayer includes praying for spiritual protection. This final petition has two requests. **The first is negative:** “And lead us not into temptation.” **The second is positive:** “...but deliver us from the evil one.”

TEMPTATION ...What does “Lead us not into temptation” mean? Certainly it cannot mean (as some have wrongly thought” that God is the prime mover behind all temptations. [James 1:13](#) make this clear: “When tempted, no one should say, ‘God is tempting me.’nor does he tempt anyone.

TEMPTATION literally means a *test*, not always a solicitation to do evil. God has promised to keep us from any testing that is greater than what we can handle **1 Corinthians 10:13** “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.”

James 1 verse 12... Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation;
(Opportunity may knock at your door but temptation will beat it down!)

Trials come from God to help us grow and temptations come from Satan to cause us to die

Trials are to be embraced with joy seeing beyond them to the end and how they make us complete and mature... we are to flee temptations and renounce them for they when conceived give birth to sin and sin will bring death!

God tests us to bring out the good and Satan tempts us to bring out the bad... **Temptation is not sin, what we do with it!!!**

for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. I want to finish well... I want to cross the finish line and hear those (more important to me than anything words) "well done good and faithful servant." ¹³ Let no one say when (like to hear if) the closer you grow to Jesus the greater the temptations will become... crazy isn't it? ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

What we are really praying is, "Do not allow us to come under the sway of temptation that will overpower us and cause us to sin." This meaning is supported by an ancient Jewish evening prayer that Jesus may well have known:

Lead me not into the power of transgression, And bring me not into the power of sin, And not into the power of iniquity, And not into the power of temptation, And not into the power of anything shameful.

Rather, we are to pray that we will be spared those temptations from Satan that we cannot withstand.

Resist temptation and it's power grows weaker... succumb and it's power grows stronger.

I like how one man said, "Conquered temptation knits the fibers of our souls into muscular cords."

That is why today we count among the great Christians of our time people like Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Corrie ten Boom, and Alexander Solzhenitsyn. The great trials made them into spiritual giants.

The proper prayer for protection is soaked with the awareness that we are profoundly weak and liable to fall.

None of us are above falling... We must abide... daily. Even pastors whom walk close to God can fall.

300 pastors who fell had 3 things in common

1. Stopped daily quiet times.
2. They were not accountable to anyone.
3. Said it would never happen to them.

BUT DELIVER US FROM THE EVIL ONE. Devil is a real person, not an impersonal cosmic force.

"C.S. Lewis in his forward of the "Screwtape letters" There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.

2 Cor. 10:3 "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." **Remember this all was happening as a result of his fervent prayers... His prayers were shaking up the spiritual realm.**

2 Corinthians 11:14, 15 says: "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore [it is] no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

Bonhoeffer, in his book entitled Temptation, describes how this works:

*With irresistible power desire seizes mastery over the flesh... It makes no difference whether it is sexual desire, or ambition, or vanity, or desire for revenge, or love of fame and power, or greed for money.... **Joy in God is... extinguished in us** and we seek all our joy in creature. At this moment God is quite unreal; ... **Satan does not here fill us with hatred of God, but with forgetfulness of God ... again** The lust thus aroused envelops the mind and will of man in deepest darkness. The powers of clear discrimination and of decision are taken from us. The questions present themselves: "Is what the flesh desires really sin in this case?" "Is it really not permitted to me, yes – expected of me, now, here, in my particular situation, to appease desire?" It is here that everything within me rises up against the Word of God.*

Francis Schaeffer in the "Shelter" said, "We are locked in a battle. This is not a friendly, gentleman's discussion. It is a life and death conflict between the spiritual hosts of wickedness and those who claim the name of Christ."

Listen to John White from his biography, "You have established a new relationship with the powers of darkness. Whatever you were before you were a Christian... you are now a sworn foe of the legions of hell. Have no delusions about their reality or their hostility, but do not fear them. The God inside you terrifies them. They cannot hurt you, let alone hurt you, but they can still seduce, and they will try. They will also oppose you as you obey Christ. ... you are serious about Christ being your Lord and God, you can expect opposition.

The assaults are incessant, and we need to ever recognize our frailty and weakness and to lean upon God's power, understanding that without it we cannot stand.

DELIVER US FROM THE EVIL ONE should be a part of our daily prayers. I pray regularly that God will put a hedge around my church and a hedge around my family.

Enough about the enemy of our souls... Jesus teaches us to end with His Kingdom... after all this is where all the evil will end...

FOR YOURS IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.

Our oldest manuscripts do not contain this doxology. Ernst Lohmeyer, who has done one of the most scholarly and exhaustive studies on the Lord's Prayer, says this doxology was included because of the Jewish custom of ending all daily prayers with a brief doxology. He believes that the Jewish Christians in Syria began to repeat the Lord's Prayer daily with the customary addition of a doxology, finally adding it to their version of their New Testament, which then influenced other ancient versions."

IS THIS A PROBLEM? Absolutely not! Not just because they didn't want to end the prayer with "Evil One" but because it is consistent with the rest of scripture.

David giving thanks before the Lord declares in 1 Chronicles 29 verse 10 and 11

*"Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. ¹¹ Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all. **this is wonderful... What a great way to end Prayer!***

The Lord's prayer is a model of what prayers should contain... ending with proper praise to our Heavenly Daddy fulfills the model given throughout scripture.

YOURS IS THE KINGDOM... what a joyful affirmation of God being the King... of everything. He and He alone is sovereign.

It's an affirmation as one man put it...

God knows instantly and effortlessly all matter and all matters, all mind and every mind, all spirit and all spirits, all being and every being, all creature hood and all creatures, every plurality and all pluralities, all law and every law, all relations, all cause, all thoughts, all mysteries, all enigmas, all feeling, all desires, every unuttered secret, all thrones and dominions, all personalities, all

things visible and invisible in heaven and in earth, motion, space, time, life death, good, evil, heaven, and hell.

Because God knows all things perfectly, He knows no thing better than any other thing, but all things equally well. He never discovers anything. He is never surprised, never amazed. He never wonders about anything..."

Oh yes our wonderful Father ***YOURS IS THE KINGDOM...***

AND THE POWER... I believe with all I am that His is the power! Harold Kushner, a once obscure rabbi wrote a best seller, "when bad thing happen to good people". In his horrifyingly feeble attempt to answer the age old ? "How can a loving God allow such horrible suffering and misery in the world? His answer is that God is indeed a loving God but He is not all powerful. So the bad things that happen are simple out of His control.

Let's mold God into our image and not the image the Bible clearly teaches us. God's not dead... just very sick and weak... but He loves you. NO, He and He alone has all power!

Here is a much better book, "Where is God when it hurts" by Philip Yancey.

Colossians 1:15-18 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Revelation 19 verse 6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

Jesus has earned the right to rule! To be first... preeminent in EVERYTHING!

Jesus is not a step on the long path to God. Jesus is the end of the search.
Jesus is none other than God.

John 15 verse 5 Apart from Him we can do nothing... **ALL THE POWER IS HIS**

AND THE GLORY doxa, in a wide application dignity, glory honor, praise, worship.

The chief use of glory in the NT is to describe the revelation of the character and the presence of God in the Person and word of Jesus Christ. He is the outshining of the divine glory. Hebrews 1 verse 3

The **doxa** of God was seen by the shepherds at the birth of Christ. [Luke 2:9&14.](#)

His **doxa** was seen at the transfiguration

His **doxa** was seen in His death and resurrection

His **doxa** is to be seen and reflected by us... His church

151 verses alone in the New Testament speak of God's glory... Only God is glorious... and His glory will last **FOREVER. AMEN.**

If a small bird was to fly to the moon and return with a bite size piece of it. Fly back to the moon again, return again. Back and forth until the whole moon was transferred that is one second in eternity... His glory will be Forever.

FOR YOURS IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.

He is our Daddy, who stands by His name. His Kingdom is here now and will finally be established in the future. He is Jehovah Jireh... our provider. He has forgiven me so I can forgive others. His is my protection from evil and the one who will finish the good work He began in me.

The Lord's Prayer is comprised of 65 profoundly simple and simply profound words. You can meditate on this prayer for hours, days, months, and years for the rest of your life.

When you carry the Bible, Satan gets a headache..... When you open it, he collapses..... When he sees you reading it, he faints..... When he sees that you are living what you read, he flees...

How can I keep from singing your praise?