

Deliver Us From Evil

Teach Us To Pray #6

September 6, 2015

Psalm 3:1-8

Concluding sermon series

Invite all to stand and pray The Lord's Prayer together

"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.

— Matthew 6:9–13

****Opening Prayer**

INTRODUCTION

1. Knowing evil when we see it
2. Dealing with the evil "out there" but also the evil within each one of us

I. ENGAGING IN THE BATTLE

1. We have an enemy (1 Peter 5:8-9)
2. We have a battle (Ephesians 6:10-13)
3. We have a guaranteed victory (Colossians 2:15, Revelation 20:7-10)
 - a. Jesus has won | Colossians 2:15
 - b. Jesus will win | Revelation 20:7-10

Why would we ask God to not lead us into temptation? Would God do that? Part of what will help understand this section is to understand the difference between temptation and testing.

II. TEMPTATION & TESTING

1. Peirasmos = Tempt, Test, Trial
 - a. A "neutral" word in the Greek, need context
 - b. None of them are comfortable, but both God and Satan have a goal.
2. God Does Not Tempt You To Evil (James 1:12-15)
 - a. Satan's goal is to tempt you and cause you to fall into sin
3. God Does Allow You To Be Tested (James 1:2-4)
 - a. God's purpose in allowing you to be tested is for your good and your growth

4. God Will Provide For You (1 Corinthians 10:6–14)
 - a. This passage is proof that God honors the prayer, “deliver us from evil”

When we pray, “lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil,” we are not asking God that we would avoid all hardship and all tests, but that he would help us to stand and to endure through all things in our battle against evil. Jesus himself prayed this way in the garden, “Father if it be possible, let this cup be taken from me...nevertheless, not my will but yours be done.”

R.C.H. Lenski — *Two things stand out in this petition: the faith which dreads the fall and the assurance that in his own way God will not let us fall.*

How do we do this? How do we stand in the day of testing? How do we endure trials?

III. RUN FROM EVIL, RUN TO CHRIST

1. Wise to Good, Innocent to Evil
2. Resist the devil (James 4:7)
3. Run to the cross (Hebrews 2:17-18)

IV. AM I EXPERIENCING SPIRITUAL ATTACK?

1. Expect attack (John 16:33)
 - a. More effective soldiers should expect more attack!
2. The battle is for the mind (2 Corinthians 10:3-6)
3. Demonic Harassment (Questions to ask)
 - a. Are your experiences “abnormal”?
 - b. Thoughts of violence or self-harm?
 - c. Hearing voices making “you” statements?
 - d. Continual hardships, sickness, opposition?
 - e. Sexual abuse? Ongoing unrepentant sexual sin?
 - f. Dabbling in occult, magic, false spirituality?
 - g. Using drugs? Psychotropics?

If you are experiencing these things, know that Jesus has defeated Satan.

- Go to God in prayer

- Repent & Renounce
- Church Community & Elders
- Be filled with the Spirit and his Word

V. CONCLUSION

1. When you pray, remember that we have an enemy who we are fighting against
2. Let's be a people of prayer. People who...
 - a. ...pray the gospel
 - b. ...praise and worship
 - c. ...pray for God's kingdom to come
 - d. ...ask for provision
 - e. ...repent and forgive
 - f. ...engage in the battle

CALL TO RESPONSE

1. Financial Giving

2. Discussion Questions:

1. What is the difference between temptation and testing? How are the two related?
2. Read 2 Cor. 12:1-10. What is God's purpose in allowing his people to be tested?
3. What does the fact that we must regularly pray for spiritual protection tell us about our lives?
4. What is God doing now about evil? What will he do ultimately?

3. Prayer Points

1. Pray that the enemy's plans for us individually and as a church would be thwarted.
2. Pray that God's will would be done in our lives and in our church.
3. Pray that when we experience temptation, we would run to Jesus
4. Pray that those who are ensnared by the enemy would come to know the freedom that comes from belonging to Jesus.

4. Communion & Singing