

Sunday Morning, February 21, 2021  
The Lord's Prayer (3)  
Luke 11:1–4; Matthew 6:9–13; Matthew 18:21–35

- V. We Pray Looking Back, “Forgive Us Our Sins”
- A. We Are Asking for the Forgiveness of Our Sins and Debts
1. We Confess Our Sin as Transgression Lk. 11:4; 1 Jn. 3:4
  
  2. And We Also Confess Our Sin as Debt Rom. 3:23; Rom. 3:10, 12; Wsc 14
  
  3. Which Is it in the Lord's Prayer? Transgressions or Debts?
- B. We Are Promising That We Forgive Everyone Who Is Indebted to Us
1. We Are *Not* Promising We Forgive in Order to Obtain Credit with God
  
  2. We Are Promising We Forgive, Following the Pattern of God's Forgiveness of Us
    - a. The Pattern for God's Forgiveness of Us Matt. 18:21–35
  
    - b. The Warning for Our Not Forgiving of Others Matt. 6:12, 14–15
  
    - c. The Comfort in Our Forgiving of Others
- VI. We Pray Looking Ahead, “And Lead Us Not into Temptation”
- A. Is it Temptation or Trial?
- B. How Can God Lead Us There, into Temptation? Jas. 1:13, 14; Deut. 32:4
1. God Sets Limits on Evil and Temptation Job 1:1–12; Lk 22:31
  
  2. God Overrules Temptation So There Is Always a Way of Escape from Temptation 1 Jn. 5:18; Lk. 22:32
  
  3. God Ordains Our Temptations, Always for Our Growth
- C. What Are We Praying?
- D. Why Are We to Pray This?
1. Because Temptations Are Hard for the Soul
  
  2. Because We Are Weak

QUOTES:

“Whenever I see myself before God and realize something of what my blessed Lord has done for me at Calvary, I am ready to forgive anybody anything. I cannot withhold it. I do not even want to withhold it.” (D. Martin Lloyd-Jones)

“It is not in our power to engage that great warrior the devil in combat, or to bear his force and onslaught. Otherwise it would be pointless or a mockery to ask of God what we already have in ourselves. Obviously those who prepare for such a combat with self-assurance do not sufficiently understand with what a ferocious and well-equipped enemy they have to deal.” (John Calvin)

“Never indulge one thought of congratulations as to self-strength. You have no power of your own, you are as weak as water. The devil has only to touch you in the right place and you will run according to his will. Only let a loose stone or two be moved and you will soon see that the feeble building of your own natural virtue will come down at a run. Never court temptation by boasting your own capacity.” (Charles Spurgeon)

“Be humble in your own eyes. They are nearest falling who presume on their own strength.” (Thomas Watson)

Larger Catechism, Question 195. *What do we pray for in the sixth petition? A.* In the sixth petition (which is, *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil*), acknowledging, that the most wise, righteous, and gracious God, for divers holy and just ends, may so order things, that we maybe assaulted, foiled, and for a time led captive by temptations; that Satan, the world, and the flesh, are ready powerfully to draw us aside, and ensnare us; and that we, even after the pardon of our sins, by reason of our corruption, weakness, and want of watchfulness, are not only subject to be tempted, and forward to expose ourselves unto temptations, but also of ourselves unable and unwilling to resist them, to recover out of them, and to improve them; and worthy to be left under the power of them: we pray, that God would so overrule the world and all in it, subdue the flesh, and restrain Satan, order all things, bestow and bless all means of grace, and quicken us to watchfulness in the use of them, that we and all his people may by his providence be kept from being tempted to sin; or, if tempted, that by his Spirit we may be powerfully supported and enabled to stand in the hour of temptation: or when fallen, raised again and recovered out of it, and have a sanctified use and improvement thereof: that our sanctification.

“Lord we acknowledge that you are most wise, righteous and gracious, and that you may for your own various holy and just purposes, so order things, that we may be assaulted, foiled, and for a time led captive by temptations. We also know that Satan, the world, and our sinful desires powerfully seek to draw us aside and ensnare us. You have forgiven and converted us, yet we still struggle with remaining corruption, weakness and carelessness. We are prone to expose ourselves to temptations. We are often unable and unwilling to resist temptations, to recover ourselves out of them, or to learn from them. We acknowledge that we deserve to be left under their power. Therefore we pray, Father, that we and all of your people will by your providence be kept from being tempted to sin. We ask you to overrule the world and everything in it that tries to lead us astray. Subdue our sinful hearts, lest we be tempted by our own lusts. Restrain Satan, that he may not tempt us. Bestow upon us all your means of grace, and enable us to diligently and fully use them, that we may avoid sin. Should we be tempted, grant that your Spirit will powerfully support us and enable us to stand in the hour of temptation. Should we fall, raise us up and recover us out of sin. Cause us to learn from the experience, so that our sanctification and salvation may be perfected, that Satan may be trodden under our feet, and that we may be sully freed from sin, temptation and all evil, forever.” (Prayer composed by Dan Dillard based on the Larger Catechism)