

The Seventh Petition



Opening Prayer

Father, dear Father, we are bold to plead to you: Deliver us from the dread consequences of our own sins, sins for which we have no one to blame but ourselves. Spare us the evil that we have deserved. Father, rescue us and all your believers from evil. Protect us when we are troubled, assure us of your love, and transform everything that seems to harm us into blessing. Amen.

Introduction

How would you react if you heard on the news that nothing bad had happened today—no murders, no wars, no hurricanes, nothing bad at all? It always seems that all we ever hear about on the news is reports of evil. Where does evil come from? How does God use it? These are some questions we'll answer as we look at the Seventh Petition of the Lord's Prayer.

Lesson Aim: What are we asking God to do when we pray the Seventh Petition?

Part One

Read Genesis 1:31.

- 1) How does the Bible describe the world as God created it?
- 2) So, who is not the author of evil?

Read Genesis 3:1-6.

- 3) Who is the real source of all evil?
- 4) What event marked the entrance of evil into our world?

Read Genesis 3:16-19.

- 5) What were some marks of evil that would come into the life of the woman (and all women after her)?
- 6) What were some marks of evil that would come into the life of the man (and all men after him)?

Read Genesis 50:20 (For full context read through chapters 42-49).

- 7) Joseph had been sold as a slave by his brothers because they were jealous of him. While he was a slave in Egypt, Joseph endured some trouble. (We looked at one such episode in the last lesson.) But through it all, what did God intend to accomplish?
- 8) So, what does God intend even with the evil that he allows to happen to us?

Read Romans 8:28.

- 9) For what purpose does God promise to use everything that happens to us?
- 10) God works for the good of those who love him in how many things?
- 11) What particular greatest of goods has God promised to work for us?

KEY POINT 1 - We ask that God would keep evil from us, or if he permits it to come, that he would use it for our good and would help us bear it.

What I've learned so far:

Part Two

Read Matthew 6:13.

- 1) Most translations have this petition as "deliver us from evil." Some translations have "deliver us from the evil one." The Greek literally says, "deliver us from the evil." It is common for Greek to use articles in places where we do not use an article in English. What is the difference in meaning between "deliver us from evil" and "deliver us from the evil one"? Do you prefer one over the other?



Read Psalm 91:9-10.

- 2) What does God promise us, even though we live in a world of sin and evil?
- 3) Does this mean that nothing bad will ever happen to us?

Read Romans 8:35-39.

- 4) No matter what evils we may experience in this life, what will separate us from the love of God?
- 5) Through whom are we "more than conquerors" in all these things?

God gives us the strength to ultimately overcome all our adversities and win the victory through faith in Jesus as our Savior.

Read 2 Timothy 4:18.

- 6) What promise do we have when surrounded by evil?
- 7) When might this happen?
- 8) When will this happen?

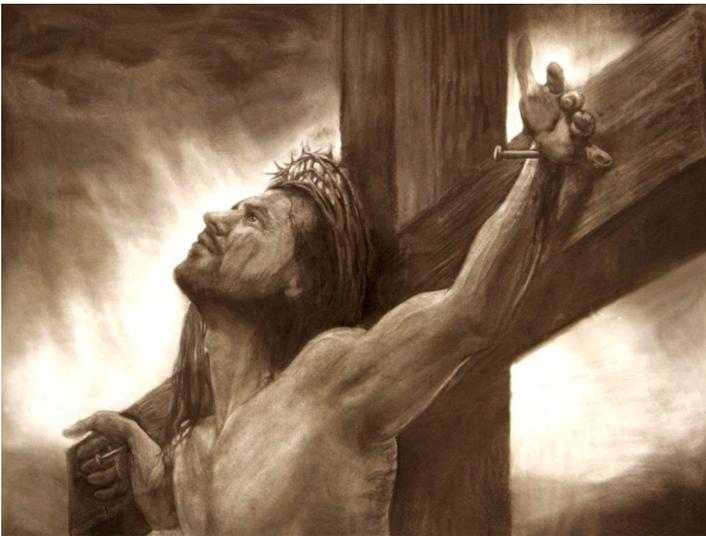
Main point – I ask God to bring me safely through all the hardships of life until he takes me to heaven.

We pray that God would deliver us from evil, above all, the evil of sin. We continue to pray that temptation would not prevail over us, asking God to stand by us with his help and strengthen us with his Word. Along with that, we pray for deliverance from all kinds of harm.



Final Considerations:

- 1) What do you think is the greatest evil that could ever happen to someone? Explain your answer.
- 2) List evils in your life from which you pray to be delivered.
- 3) Is this evil?



- 4) By the gracious will of our Father, the troubles which come to us serve ____ .
 - A. To punish us for our sins.
 - B. For our good, often in ways we do not understand.
 - C. To warn us of the sufferings of hell.



- 5) Write your expounded version of the Seventh Petition.

Commit to Memory:

- Romans 8:28
- The Seventh Petition (with *What Does This Mean?*)
- Prayer—Matthew 6, Luke 11

What I've learned about the Seventh Petition of the Lord's Prayer: