



## The Father's Protection "The Lord's Prayer" Series

Matthew 6:13b, p. 811

March 1, 2020

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### Introduction

In Petition Seven of the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us to seek God's protection from evil/the Evil One.

### The Text: Matthew 6:13b

1) Summary: Petition Seven is asking God to protect and rescue us from the persons and powers of evil.

a) "Evil" could just as accurately be translated as "the Evil One," that is, Satan.

b) "Deliver" is requesting that God protect us and remove us from evil/the Evil One.

- We "have been saved" – delivered from sin's Penalty (Justification)
- We "are being saved" – delivered from sin's Power (Sanctification)
- We "will be saved" – delivered from sin's Presence (Glorification)

2) Petition Seven offers us important teachings on a biblical view of evil and the Evil One.

a) Evil is not just what we do, but also what we suffer.

Hebrews 2:14-15: <sup>14</sup> "...that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery."

b) There is an evil person named Satan, who is created, opposed to God, and hates the church.

- Denial – Satan will try to distort the truth and make you believe/trust in a lie.
- Displacement – Satan will try to reroute our love for and allegiance to God to other things.
- Despair – Satan will try to accuse you of your sin and crush your hope and faith in God.

c) God protects us from evil/the Evil One by his power and his person.

Ephesians 6:11-17: <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day..... <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth [1], and having put on the breastplate of righteousness [2], <sup>15</sup> and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace [3]. <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith [4], with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation [5], and the sword of the Spirit [6], which is the word of God.

3) By praying Petition Seven, we are asking our Father to protect us and rescue all of creation.

### Response

Our prayer life – and Christian life – should reflect the truth that God is the Divine Warrior who defeats all evil.

## Small Group Questions for Matthew 6:13b (Lord's Prayer Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: What is the greatest evil you have ever witnessed or experienced?
- 2) The Greek word translated as “evil” (ESV) could also be translated as “the Evil One.” What difference does each translation make for the message of the seventh petition?
- 3) What are some of the “evils” from which God needs to rescue his people, the church?
- 4) Who is Satan, and how would you explain him to a new Christian?
- 5) What is Satan doing, and why does the Bible talk about him so much?
- 6) Why is it important to remember that Satan was created by God?
- 7) Satan’s tactics often involve denial, displacement, and despair. Which one of those seems to be the one that most impacts you and your spiritual life?
- 8) How should a Christian deal with Satan?
- 9) Read Ephesians 6:11-17. How does this passage give new insight when you realize it is talking less about an armor we put on, and more about the armor of Christ, the Divine Warrior promised in the Old Testament?
- 10) How might this petition strengthen your faith in God as you face evil in the world or even the Evil One?

**Further study this week:** Key biblical texts on the Evil One/Satan: Genesis 3 (Mon); Job 1 (Tues); Matthew 4 (Wed); Revelation 12 (Thurs); Revelation 20 (Fri).