

“Praying for Victory”

The Lord’s Prayer Part 5

Matthew 6:13

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“In our comfortable routines of life we do not think of ourselves as being in danger. But we should, for we are.”

J.I. Packer, *Praying the Lord’s Prayer*,
Crossway Books, Wheaton, IL, 2007, p. 93.

Three reasons we should pray for victory...

Reason 1: We have been born into a war. (Genesis 3:1-24;
Ephesians 6:12)

We have three enemies:

1. Satan (I Peter 5:8)
2. Our flesh (Romans 5:19; 7:19-24)
3. The world (I John 2:15, 16)

Reason 2: The destructive nature of sin. (James 1:13-15;
Galatians 6:7, 8)

Reason 3: We’re vulnerable and in need of help.
(Matthew 6:13, 26:41; John 17:15;
I Corinthians 10:12, 13)

“Sin is much, much more than the violation of a set of rules. Sin is more profound than rebellion against a moral code. Sin is about something deeper than behaving inappropriately. It’s deeper than bad actions and wrong words. The desire to be God rather than to serve God lies at the bottom of every sin that anyone has ever committed. Sin isn’t first rooted in philosophical debate of the appropriateness or healthiness of a certain ethic. No, sin is rooted in my unwillingness to find joy in living my life under the authority of, and for the glory of, Another. Sin is rooted in my desire to live for me. It’s driven by my propensity to indulge my every feeling, satisfy my every desire, and meet my every need.”

Paul David Tripp, *Whiter Than Snow*,
Crossway Books, Wheaton, IL, 2007, p. 81.

“From sin, from the crafts and assaults of the devil...from all blindness of heart; from pride, vain-glory and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness...from fornication, and all other deadly sin; and from all deceits of the world, and flesh, and the devil...from sudden [unexpected, and unprepared-for] death...from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and Commandment, *Good Lord*, deliver us. Now we see what our deepest dangers are, and whence they arise. The deliverance we need is not only or mainly from adverse circumstances, but from the spiritual evil within us that makes both adverse and favorable circumstances its springboard for attack. Sin in our hearts, spawning all kinds of inclinations to do something other than God’s will and to love something or someone more than God himself, is the source of our danger. Always and everywhere, the danger of being led astray by indwelling sin remains.”

J.I. Packer, *Praying the Lord’s Prayer*,
Crossway Books, Wheaton, IL, 2007, pp. 93, 94.

“Life itself is a process. When we gain victory over one sin, another temptation always seems to be waiting to trip us up. Therefore, praying ‘Lead me not into temptation’ is an appeal for God to enable us to go ‘from victory to victory.’ We are praying, ‘Lord, give me a victory today,’ and tomorrow you will pray again, ‘Lord, give me a victory today.’ ... When you pray ‘Lead us not into temptation,’ you are like a night watchman who discovers a blazing inferno in the warehouse. He does not try to fight the fire himself, but runs to call the fire department to fight the fire. You also call for God’s help to face your own fires of temptation.”

Elmer Towns, *Praying the Lord’s Prayer for Spiritual Breakthrough*,
Regal Books, Ventura, CA, 1997, p. 174.