

Large Catechism Lesson 22

Part 3: Lord's Prayer | Petitions 6-7

6th Petition-And lead us not into temptation

What are the three kinds of temptations?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

The devil seeks to tear us away from faith, hope, and love and replace them with what?

- 1) ~~Faith~~ |
- 2) ~~Hope~~ |
- 3) ~~Love~~ |

In summary, we are our own worst enemies, and we are attacked on all fronts.

Temptation refers to attacks from our enemies.

- Ambushes, ambuscades, assaults in battle that we do not see coming
- Sneak attacks that set out to destroy faith
- Subtle instead of overt
- Rarely result in a conscious decision to leave the faith

Power and strength to resist temptation, even though temptation will not be taken away or removed

What is Luther's distinction between feeling temptation and consenting/yielding to temptation?

Excursus: Pope Francis and the Lord's Prayer

"Do not let us fall into temptation"

Excursus within and excursus: Adiaphora

Does Francis' changed wording to the Lord's Prayer qualify as an adiaphoron?

- How are we to handle adiaphora?

7th Petition-But deliver us from [the] evil [one]. Amen.

Our prayer between the first and second advents

- Where the 'Already' and the 'Not Yet' characterize all that believers say and do

Our chief enemy

"The last petition thus compresses the thoughts of all the previous petitions into the idea that the sum total of all our prayers should be aimed at this enemy of ours. This petition is directed against all misfortune – every evil that befalls us in the devil's kingdom and every tragic misery and heartache. There is 'nothing for us to do on earth but pray constantly against this arch enemy'. And so the Lord's Prayer goes to the heart of our deepest

need."¹

Hallowed be Thy Name (1st)

Thy Kingdom Come (2nd)

Thy will be done (3rd)

*Implicit conflict between
these pairs of petitions*

Open warfare

Give us this day our daily bread (4th)

Forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against
us (5th)

Lead us not into temptation (6th)

"'That we might realize this.' This realization sees the first rays of Easter; the trust that goes with it cries out in joyful groaning of hope, 'deliver us from evil.'"² (7th)

Closing Discussion: How Are We to Regard the Lord's Prayer?

- How has the catechism's reflections on the Lord's Prayer shaped your view and use of the prayer?
- Why do many Christians avoid praying the Lord's Prayer?
 - What could we say to those brothers and sisters to encourage them to pray the 'Our Father'?

"To this day, I nurse on the Lord's Prayer like a little child, and like an old man now, I eat and drink from it, but never get my fill. I regard it more highly even than the Psalms, which I treasure very much. It is the very best prayer, because the true master of prayer, Jesus, composed it and taught it to us...In summary, the Pater Noster is the greatest martyr on earth, as much as the name and Word of God. Nearly everyone mistreats it and abuses it. Only a few are comforted by it and find joy in its correct use" (Luther, "A Simple Way to Pray").

1 Arand, 166.

2 Arand, Kolb, & Nestingen, *The Lutheran Confessions*, 82.