

Biblical Topics

Lord's Prayer – Seventh Petition

But deliver us from evil

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition, in summary that our Father in heaven would rescue us from evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

We ask God in this petition to:

- A. Keep every evil from us. The evil of the body would include but not be limited to: sickness, pain hunger, mishap and destitution. The evil of the soul would include but not be limited to: unbelief, despair, anxiety and insanity.
 - Psalm 91:10: then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent.

- B. Take from us, or help to bear, and turn to our own benefit, the cross with which He afflicts us.
 - Acts 14:22: “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,”
 - Hebrews 12:6: because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son.
 - 2 Corinthians 12:9: But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

- C. Deliver us from all evil by a blessed end. As long as we are in this world, we shall have to endure many evils. These are a consequence of our sins. We ask God to keep us in the faith of Jesus until we die. Then we will have joy and pleasures forever.
 - 2 Timothy 4:18: The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.
 - Luke 2:29-30: Oh Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation,
 - Philippians 1:23: I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far.

The above information is taken from: “Luther’s Small Catechism” annotated by Edward W. A. Koehler.