



Protect & Deliver Psalm 91

Review

- We are forgiven.
- We forgive.

Colossians 3:13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

- According to Luke’s account, what have the disciples seen Jesus do up to now?:
 - Preach in the synagogues w/ authority and power. And to large crowds.
 - Cleanse lepers.
 - Heal multitudes. (Paralysis, withered hands, blood issues...)
 - Deliver people from demons.
 - Raise people from the dead (widow’s son, Jairus’ daughter).
 - Calm a storm.
- **In all of this, what do the disciples ask? “Lord, teach us how to pray.”**
 - “We see in you, Jesus, an intimacy w/ the Father, a power from God, a trust in His ways, a delight in your Father’s will...we want that!” Teach us that! Teach us how to pray like that!
- And this is the culmination of that model prayer.
- **“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”**

Question for today: What is Jesus telling us to pray here?

- The word translated “temptation” (Gk. peirasmos) can indicate either temptation or testing (James 1:13). The meaning here most likely carries the sense, “Allow us to be spared from difficult circumstances that would tempt us to sin.”

Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

- Even my resistance to sin is from Him. That's why I pray this way. My tendency is to run to obedience...to moralism. But even in THOSE THINGS...I am appealing to God to do those things through me.

Psalm 141:4 Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and let me not eat of their delicacies.

- James tells us we sin, not when God tempts us, but when we are lured and enticed by our own desires; then there is a progression to sin; then a descent to death.
- We are inclined this way! We are rebels, prone to wander. There is no neutral with us.
- What type of stuff are we praying against?

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Psalm 91 (Moses or David)

"In the whole collection there is not a more cheering Psalm, its tone is elevated and sustained throughout, faith is at its best, and speaks nobly. A German physician was wont to speak of it as the best preservative in times of cholera, and in truth, it is a heavenly medicine against plague and pest. He who can live in its spirit will be fearless, even if once again London should become a lazaret-house, and the grave be gorged with carcasses."

Psalm 91:1-4 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." 3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. 4 He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

- He is my refuge, I choose him as such.
- Have you said, have you declared to your bones, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust"?
- This man trusts, completely, in the Lord.
- He trusts in deliverance from temptation...and in deliverance from evil.
- This must be declared, cried, shouted...at the moment of temptation. When you are about to sin.
- Pray, early and often, for the Lord to keep you from temptations!
- 1 Corinthians 10:13 tells us we face no temptation that is not common to other people. You're not the only one.
- Hebrews 4 goes further--we face no temptation that is not common to JESUS! Temptation is not sin. We are led not into temptation, by a Savior who in "every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Jesus gets temptation. And desires to lead us away from it.
- We serve a Lord who understands, deeply, temptation. Who better to run to when tempted?
- Then protection from evil...
- Matthew Henry--"They (believers) shall be taken under the peculiar care of heaven."
 - Everyone does not have this protection, care.
 - God takes care of His own.
 - David's prayer of gratitude in 2 Samuel--"who is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom God went to redeem to be his people, making for himself a name, and doing for them great and awesome things by driving out before you

people...and you established for yourself your people Israel to be your people forever.”

- For the believer, God is home...and He is the vacation home...and the weekend getaway...some of you want to go ANYWHERE except the presence of God for refuge.
- **“Your problem is not a busy schedule. Your problem is a busy soul.”**

Psalm 91:5-7 You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, 6 nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

- Delivered from the power of darkness. We don't live in fear of man, or fear of death. Death has no sting for us anymore! The cross removes the sting for us.
- Certainly does not mean we never face calamity.

1 Peter 4:19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

- Even the worst “evil” for a believer has purpose: to drive us right back to God!

Psalm 119:71 It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.

- It DOES mean we may lose battles, but we win the war.

Psalm 91:8-10 You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. 9 Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge 10 no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

- Promise to the believer--same thing Psalmist Asaph sees in Psalm 73: The wicked (unsaved) ultimately get the harsh judgment of God;
- But because we have made the Lord our dwelling place, our refuge--we will not ultimately face evil.
- There has always been safety for the faithful in the refuge of God during times of plagues, judgment, wrath.

Summary

- We prayed and asked for forgiveness--the last battles, the ones lost.
- **This part of the prayer is where we pray for strength and perseverance in the future battles!**
- This is a prayer that ends with us, like the Psalmist, seeing God as a help, not a hindrance, during times of temptations, trials and evil.

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.