

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

God, we need Your help

Matthew 6:13, “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

“And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

“And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.”

“And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

Which to embrace... **how & why?**

- They are all valid
- Yet, none are perfect...
- And can be understood differently

Martin Luther advised to view the scriptures that are not clearly understood, **in the light of those that are.**

- So, what do we know about **God & temptation** from **His Word?**

James 1:13, Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, **nor does He Himself tempt anyone.**

- Every translation says that the same

Why would Jesus have us ask God to **not do** what we know He doesn’t?

The prayer is a interdependent whole

- Not disconnected fragments

Is any of it negative, fearful or apprehensive?

- **Is God? No**
- So why would this part be?
- Would He start & continue positive, then go negative? **No**

II Corinthians 1:18-20, But as God is faithful, our word to you was not Yes and No. For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

God’s Word does not contradict itself

- God is never the source of temptation

Wasn’t Jesus led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil? (**Matt. 4:1-11**) Yes, He was.

- Did God tempt Him? **No**, He did not

So, how should we understand this part of the prayer?

- In the light of what all else we understand, I believe...
“And lead us – **not into temptation**”
- In the way that is not temptation

Just before being tempted Jesus was baptized (**Matt. 3:13-17**)

- **Why?** He didn’t need it

He did them both **to identify with us completely**

- So we could have absolute confidence in Him

“But deliver us from the evil one.”

I Thessalonians 3:5, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means **the tempter** had tempted you

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Hebrews 2:18 & 4:15-16, For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. **Let us therefore** come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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I Corinthians 10:13, No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

II Peter 2:9, The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations

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*“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 forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.”*

(Some translations included) For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.