



Purpose of Prayer

Matthew 6:13 | Abel Mendez | June 1, 2025

Purpose of Prayer (Matthew 6:13)

To Prepare Us To Persevere and To Prevail!

If you had to pick ONE WORD to describe everything Jesus taught, what would it be?

- “Your **KINGDOM** Come, Your Will Be Done on earth as it is in heaven”
- Jesus teaches in regard to “Kingdom” over 85 & it appears over 160 times in New Testament!

What does Every Kingdom Narrative share in common? OPPOSITION!!!!

The Kingdom Protagonist always has a Kingdom Antagonist!

1. Star Wars we see The Empire
2. Lord of the Rings we see Sauron
3. Chronicles of Narnia we see the White Witch

Jesus EXPERIENCED first hand opposition to prayer after 40 days in the wilderness!

- Matthew 4:11 - “Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.”

THEREFORE JESUS EQUIPS DISCIPLES with instruction...

“This, then is how you should pray...”

Today we concluded The LORDS prayer with this final line...

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

Today we answer, “WHY THIS PRAYER??? TO PREPARE US, TO PERSEVERE and to PREVAIL!”

- So we would be prepared for tests, trials, tribulations, temptations to sin and to evil!

Because Life is Full of Monsoons!!! (Image of Airplane Seatbelt Sign)

1. **On an Airplane** : Though I have never had the privilege of seeing the journey from the cockpit I have no doubt felt it! My first experience with turbulence was absolutely terrifying!

Image of Monsoon with Airplane Overhead and a Car Underneath

- **In a Car** : In my years of driving I have had the experience (not privilege) of driving through insane rain with cars spinning around me!

This Monsoon Represents : Overwhelming, intense storms of life, sudden seasons of adversity, being pushed beyond ourselves, experiencing waves of temptation to harbor anger or act out.

WE NEED THIS PRAYER : AS PREPARATION TO PERSEVERE AND TO PREVAIL!

1. Our lives are Surrounded by **Tests, Tribulations of Evil (External & Internal)** in the **World**, the **Spirit Realm** and Inside!
2. Jesus gave us this prayer to prepare us to persevere and prevail!

ULTIMATELY : We have VICTORY because of Jesus! (Lord’s Table)

- He endured the greatest Test of all and Prevailed, our victory is in HIM!
- I pray this study would prepare your heart as we come to the Lord’s Table.



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Prayer of Preparation :

"Lead us not into temptation..."

Temptation (πειρασμός | peirasmos)

- Trial, Testing, Proving
- The Enticement to Sin
- Adversity, Affliction, Trouble, Tribulation

Life is FULL of "Peirasmos!" Image : Airplane / Car Graphic

- Monsoons = Temptations or Trials of being pushed beyond ourselves!

JESUS WAS NO STRANGER HE WAS BORN into a life of Troubles, Trials, Opposition...

- From his birth, to being a refugee, the wilderness to Gethsemane, to betrayal, and to the Cross!!!

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin." (Hebrews 4:15)

- Jesus faced every type of temptation and testing we have and even beyond what we have endured!

"Do not be unrealistic in not budgeting for temptation, for foolhardy enough to court it; but when it comes do not doubt God's power to deliver from the evil it brings." (J.I. Packer)

Nothing like a Good Test to Reveal what You KNOW and what you DON'T KNOW!

- The Professor who gave "Surprise Exams" so students would be ready.
- Ms Gomez in High School... My driving Test.... All tests reveal what we know or don't know!

We Need to be Prepared for the "Testings" of Life : Hence this Prayer!

The Words of Peter: "Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you." (1 Peter 4:12)

- Dear Friends : You are loved by God, CoPartners in the Gospel, Part of the Kingdom of God!
- Do not Be Surprised : Fiery ordeals, Trials, Testings are nothing New!
- Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego - "The God we serve is able to deliver... but even if he does not... we will not serve your gods..." (Daniel 3:17,18)

The Words of Paul: In One of My Greatest Trials I was awakened in Nicaragua (Acts 14:22) in my head...

"...strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God..." (Acts 14:22)

- **Acts :14:19** They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. **20** But after the disciples had gathered around him, **he got up and went back into the city.**

Image of Rocky Balboa beat up

The Words of Jesus : "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)



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Image of a Cross

- What More Could be Said (Image of the Cross) we all have Monsoons to PREPARE for... Tests, Temptations, Trials and tribulations... PERHAPS YOU ARE THERE NOW, LETS

A Prayer to Persevere :

"Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us..."

Image of Monsoon : A Prayer of Perseverance : God Bring me Through!!

Though at first glance this prayer SEEMS to say LET ME BE PROTECTED FROM...

(Greek Language actually paints a different picture...)

TO PROTECTED THROUGH... Tribulation and Evil.

"Not Into" (Ego Eis)

- Into a place to perish, to end, To be brought throughout, brought fourth.

"Deliver us" (Ryomai)

- To draft oneself, to rescue, to rush or to draw out.

Life is Full of LandMines : Golan Heights : Minefield, GOD LEAD ME through!

Why we need help!

"Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation, the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Mt 26:41)

- Our 'spirit' (Lowercase) is willing (desires) but our flesh (bodies and minds) are weak!

We Need Something MORE... WE NEED THE LORD!!!!

- **WE NEED THE LORD**, We need **HIS SPIRIT**, we need **HIS STRENGTH!**
- And He has promised us **HIS HELPER** the **HOLY SPIRIT** (John 14:26)

The Words of Paul : "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." (1 Corinthians 10:13)

What Paul is saying :

- God is Sovereign : He is Faithful + Beginning and End | Author and Finisher | Who Began & Will Complete!!!
- All God allows is measured : **IT WILL FEEL LIKE MORE THAN YOU CAN BEAR...**

These Tests have a way of Revealing our Character : IMAGE XCC "CHARACTER CHALLENGE"

- I was so frustrated with my group I began to vocalize belittling cynicism under my breath...
- The trial had revealed my true character and I did not like what I saw.
- But God uses these things!!!

Name that Picture : A Diamond? No Coal | A Glass? No Sand | Gold? No Melted Ore



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- Coal hard pressed 55-90 miles deep in the mantle at 1,600°F - 2,300°F produces a diamond!
- Sand melted in a furnace at temperatures 2,550°F - 2,900°F produces glass!
- Crushed and Melting (Smelting) Gold Ore at 1,947°F is required to refine gold!

“God bring me through this Test I trust it will make something beautiful!”

A Prayer of Preservation : LORD LEAD ME... LORD DELIVER ME... LORD HELP!

- Whether you are in the sky, or you are on the ground...
- It is scary, beyond ourselves, God bring me through!

In my greatest moment of feeling betrayed...

Resentment, Bitterness, Ugly Frustration and anger came to the surface... SIN IN ME was coming to the surface... Leads us to our final point...

A Prayer to Prevail :

“...deliver us from the evil / one.” (Don't let me succumb to this the way the evil one wants!!!!)

Evil (ponēros) - Pronounced “pon-ay-ros”

- Evil / Evil Things
- The Wicked One / Wicked Person(s)

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence, the other is to believe, and to feel and excessive and unhealthy interest in them.” (C.S. Lewis - Introduction to Screwtape Letters)

There are essentially 2 Forms of Evil : (No Doubt Evil Exists and is in our World)

1. External EVIL

- **Evil in the World** (Systemic Evils, Governments, Rulers, Genocides, Murders, Rapes, etc)
- **Evil in the Spirit Realm** (Invisible Power, Authorities, Rulers of Darkness of the age)
- **Evil in demonic Form** (22 Instances Jesus / Disciples Rebuking / Delivering people from Demons)

Ephesians 6:10-12 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

2. Internal EVIL

- There is a form of Evil in us all called Sin... Even Paul the Apostle (Great Church Founder)

Paul's Approach | His Identity in Christ AND the Sin Still in Him...

- **2 Corinthians 5:17** - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!
- **Romans 7:21** - So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me.

Image of an Acorn & An Oak : “If Sin in us was an Acorn”

- If you place the Acorn in the Soil and water it can become an oak!



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- If you starve it from the Soil and From Water, It will remain an Acorn

Notice : Paul Identifies as a NEW CREATION but acknowledges a desire for evil still in him!

- If you wrestle to do the right thing
- If you experience conviction... GOOD NEWS, THE SPIRIT IS IN YOU!

Hebrews 2:18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, **he is able to help those who are being tempted.**

- Image of the the Monsoon : This Prayer is a Means to Prevail and to Victory!

"The great point is that Jesus' act of giving us this prayer is an implicit promise that if we seek deliverance from evil, we shall find it" (J.I. Packer - Praying the Lord's Prayer, p.102)

Conclusion : We are not Alone in the Monsoons of Life!

Call the Worship Team :

As the Worship Team Comes Up and Starts Would you Raise your Hand if you need a Cup/Bread

In Paul's Own Wrestling ;

"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Romans 7:24-25)

The Prayers of Jesus

- Jesus **Prepared for his Ministry in Prayer** in the Wilderness
- Jesus **Persevered in his Ministry in Prayer** on the Cross
- Jesus **Prevailed in his Ministry in Prayer** on to the Resurrection

We have VICTORY because of Jesus!

- He endured the greatest Test of all and Prevailed, our victory is in HIM!
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Where are You at in this season of Life : Where are You in the Monsoon?

- Are you fearful of what might be ahead?
- Are you in over your head in the thick of it?
- Are you looking at the trial in the rearview mirror?

Let us Life our Eyes to Jesus endured the cross, despised the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the Father!

- **Luke 22:19** And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."
- **Luke 22:20** In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

Matthew 26:39 "Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."



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Side note - Why not the Doxology -

Simply : Not found in the earliest and most reliable Greek manuscripts of the Gospel of Matthew.

Earliest Most Reliable Manuscripts : The Doxology is Absent

- Chester Beatty Papyrus (200 AD), Codex Sinaitics (325-350AD) , Codex Vaticanus (330-360AD)
- Its believed to have originated as liturgical addition to early Christian worship.
- First inclusion of Doxology is in Codex Washingtonianus "W" (400 AD)
- King James Version Bible (Includes) was created from Textus Receptus (1516 AD)
- This is why our modern translation (ESV, NIV, NRSV) omit or include a footnote acknowledging in later manuscripts.

END WITH PRAYER + DOXOLOGY "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, AMEN!"