

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE THIRD PETITION

DEVOTION

THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done? God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

[Jesus said,] "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that I should lose nothing of all that He has given Me, but raise it up on the last day." (John 6:39)

FOR SHARING

1. "Where is God leading me?" Share, if possible, a specific time when this question weighed heavily on your heart and mind.
2. "Thy will be done." Often, however, our inward prayer is "My will be done." Why do our prayers often become "self-centered" rather than "God-centered"?
3. How do the devil and the world work to undermine God's will? How does our sinful nature resist God's will?
4. The Father's will is eternal life for all who believe in Jesus (John 6:39). How did Jesus win eternal life for us? In what ways does the Gospel triumph over "every evil plan" that we face in life?
5. Share how God, through Law and Gospel in the Scriptures, gives you knowledge and understanding of His will in Christ.

PRAYER

[Father,] Your gracious will on earth be done As it is done before Your throne, That patiently we may obey In good or bad times all You say. Curb flesh and blood and ev'ry ill That sets itself against Your will.

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