

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SEVENTH PETITION

DEVOTION

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 every 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.

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. (Ephesians 6:11–13)

FOR SHARING

1. Share an example of how evil has affected our world or your life.
2. “Once we assuage our conscience by calling something a ‘necessary evil,’ it begins to look more and more necessary and less and less evil.” Agree or disagree? In what ways do we try to justify our sinful choices and actions?
3. The Lord Jesus “gave Himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father” (Galatians 1:4). How did He defeat Satan? What does His victory mean for you?
4. How can we daily “put on the whole armor of God” to resist evil in our world?
5. “I’m but a stranger here, heav’n is my home.” Reflect on the joy of heaven, where in Christ all believers will experience full and final rescue from all evil.

PRAYER

Deliver us from evil days, From ev’ry dark and trying maze; Redeem us from eternal death, Console us when we yield our breath. Give us at last a blessed end; Receive our souls, O faithful friend.

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