

The Sermon on the Mount
51 – Temptation and Deliverance
Matthew 6:13

- I. Avoidance of Temptation – “And do not lead us into temptation”
 - A. What the Petition Does Not Mean
 - 1. Jesus is not suggesting that God would tempt/entice us with sin.
 - 2. Jesus is not suggesting that we might experience an entire absence of temptation.
 - B. What the Petition Does Mean
 - 1. An implicit recognition of our weakness and vulnerability to sin
 - 2. A pleading that God would order all things so we would avoid temptation

- II. Deliverance from Temptation – “but deliver us from the evil (one)”
 - A. Enablement to Resist and Overcome Temptation
 - B. Repentance, Pardon, and Restoration When We Fall into Sin
 - C. Spiritual Growth and Final Victory Over All Temptation, Sin, and Evil

Westminster Larger Catechism: In the sixth petition (which is, And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil), acknowledging, that the most wise, righteous, and gracious God, for divers holy and just ends, may so order things, that we may be assaulted, foiled, and for a time led captive by temptations; that Satan, the world, and the flesh, are ready powerfully to draw us aside, and ensnare us; and that we, even after the pardon of our sins, by reason of our corruption, weakness, and want of watchfulness, are not only subject to be tempted, and forward to expose ourselves unto temptations, but also of ourselves unable and unwilling to resist them, to recover out of them, and to improve them; and worthy to be left under the power of them: we pray, that God would so overrule the world and all in it, subdue the flesh, and restrain Satan, order all things, bestow and bless all means of grace, and quicken us to watchfulness in the use of them, that we and all his people may by his providence be kept from being tempted to sin; or, if tempted, that by his Spirit we may be powerfully supported and enabled to stand in the hour of temptation: or when fallen, raised again and recovered out of it, and have a sanctified use and improvement thereof: that our sanctification and salvation may be perfected, Satan trodden under our feet, and we fully freed from sin, temptation, and all evil, forever.