

Theology Through the Eyes of Jesus – Lesson 6

“The Cry for Protection and Victory: Reliance on God’s Power and Revelation of His Glory”

Summary

Spiritual warfare is real, and victory requires God’s protection and guidance. When we pray, “Lead us not into temptation,” we’re asking God to steer us away from situations that would overwhelm our weakness. When we pray, “Deliver us from evil,” we confess our total dependence on His power to rescue us from sin and the enemy. The doxology reminds us that our safety rests not in our strength but in His eternal kingdom, power, and glory.

Scripture

Matthew 6:13

1. Introduction

Opening Thought

Every believer knows what it feels like to be pulled toward something that doesn’t honor God. Temptation is not just a moment of weakness—it is a battlefield. It is the intersection where our desires, our vulnerabilities, and the enemy’s strategies collide.

Jesus places this line in the Lord’s Prayer because He knows something we often forget: We are not strong enough to win spiritual battles on our own.

Temptation is not merely about bad choices—it is about spiritual pressure.

Evil is not merely a concept—it is a personal enemy.

Victory is not merely about willpower—it is about divine intervention.

When we pray, “Lead us not into temptation,” we are admitting:

“God, I don’t trust my own judgment.”

“I know my weak spots.”

“I need You to guide my steps.”

And when we pray, “Deliver us from evil,” we are confessing:

“I cannot defeat the enemy alone.”

“I need Your rescue, Your strength, Your covering.”

“Victory is not achieved—it is received.”

Yield Not to Temptation

- Temptation from Without — External pressure from the enemy, the world, or circumstances that push us toward sin.

- Temptation from Within — Internal desires, cravings, and weaknesses that pull us toward sin.
- Pressure Meets Desire — Temptation is strongest when outside pressure aligns with inside desire.
- Different Battles, Different Strategies — External temptation requires guardrails; internal temptation requires heart transformation.
- Victory Requires God — Only God can guide us away from pressure and deliver us from the desires within.

2. When Our Weakness Meets God’s Strength

“Lead Us Not Into Temptation” — We Need God’s Guidance

This phrase does not mean God tempts us—Scripture is clear that He does not (James 1:13). Instead, it means: “Father, guide my steps away from situations that would overwhelm me.” We are asking God to:

steer us away from spiritual danger
 expose traps before we fall into them
 strengthen us before weakness shows
 redirect us when our desires drift toward sin

“Deliver Us From Evil” — We Need God’s Power

The word “deliver” means rescue, snatch away, pull out of danger. It acknowledges our total inability to defeat sin, Satan, or spiritual darkness on our own. We are not praying for self-improvement. We are praying for supernatural intervention. This is a cry for:

protection from the enemy’s schemes
 strength against internal weakness
 rescue from spiritual attack
 victory that only God can give

Biblical Illustration:

David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17).

David didn’t win because he was skilled—he won because God delivered.

Victory is always God’s work, not ours.

The Doxology — “For Yours Is the Kingdom...”

Though not in all manuscripts, the doxology reflects the heart of the prayer: we end where we began—anchored in God’s eternal power.

“For Yours is the kingdom” — God rules.

“And the power” — God is able.

“And the glory” — God is worthy.

The prayer begins with God’s greatness and ends with God’s greatness. The message is clear: our safety is not in our strength, but in His sovereignty.

3. Practice Makes Perfect

Principle	Application
Identify Your Temptation Zones	You cannot guard what you refuse to acknowledge. Name the places, patterns, and people that pull you off course.
Build Spiritual Guardrails	Guardrails are not legalism—they are wisdom. Examples: limiting access, accountability, prayer rhythms, Scripture memorization, digital boundaries
Pray Before the Battle, Not After	Jesus teaches us to pray before temptation hits. Victory begins with preparation, not reaction.
Lean on God's Strength, Not Your Own	Self-reliance is the enemy of spiritual victory. Dependence is the pathway to deliverance.
End Every Battle with Worship	The doxology teaches us that worship is warfare. When you declare God's power, the enemy loses influence.

4. Discussion Questions

- What areas of temptation do you already know you need God to guide you away from?
- What does it practically look like for God to “lead us not into temptation”?
- How does this verse reshape your understanding of spiritual warfare?
- Why is it important to admit that we cannot defeat sin or Satan in our own strength?
- What specific guards or spiritual disciplines can you use this week to avoid known areas of temptation?

5. Closing Thoughts

Temptation is real. Evil is real. But so is God's protection, God's power, and God's victory. This prayer is not a whisper of fear—it is a declaration of confidence. It is the cry of a believer who knows: “My Father leads me, my Father protects me, and my Father delivers me.”

When you pray this line, you are stepping into the safety of His sovereignty. You are acknowledging your weakness and embracing His strength. You are declaring that the battle is not yours—it is the Lord's.

Challenge for the Week: Relentless Forgiveness

This week, choose one known area of temptation and build an intentional guardrail around it.

- If you know the trap, don't walk toward it.
- If you know the weakness, don't fight it alone.
- If you want victory, follow the One who delivers.