Transforming Prayer

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Nov 18th Mt. 6:9 "After this manner pray:"

- 1. "Our Father" (Personal Relationship)
- 2. "In heaven" (Eternal Perspective)
- 3. "Hallowed by thy name" (Powerful Awareness)
- 4. "Thy Kingdom come" (Partisan Allegiance)
- 5. "Thy Will be done" (Purposeful Submission)
- 6. "Give us...our daily bread" (Practical Provision)
- 7. "Forgive us ... as we forgive" (Purified channels of Grace)
- 8. "Lead us not into temptation..." James 1:12-16 describes this process and concludes with this warning: "Do not err my beloved brethren!" Plana'o: wander or <u>drift</u>

"Deliver us from Evil"

Deliver: (Rhy'omai) a current or flow Evil: (Ponēros') hurtful influences

Currents that can corrupt us. James 4

- 1. The Flesh vs 1-3 "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?"
- A. The Source: "Your lusts": Hēdonē': to please, delight oneself.
- 1) Pleasure is a type of *reward*.
- 2) What gets rewarded gets <u>repeated.</u>
- 3) What gets repeated can become <u>addictive!</u> → (Dopamine)
- B. The Struggle: Gal 5:17 "the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary one to the other."
 - 1) Apostle Paul knew this struggle: Ro 7:21-23 "when I would do good, evil is present with me. I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members."

C. The subtle snare.

- 1) Worldly pleasure is not permanent! Most of Satan's temptations begin with the promise of pleasure, but end with the pain of shame and remorse.
- 2) Lust is never lastingly satisfied! Pr. 14:12 "the end thereof are the ways of death".

 Fleshly pleasures are temporary. Heavenly rewards are eternal! Ps. 16:11
 - By Faith Moses chose "rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward." Heb. 11:25,26

2. The World. Vs 4 "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever will be a friend (philos: fond associate) of the world (kosmos: decoration, adornment) is the enemy of God." (Echtros': hateful, odious, hostile)

A. What's wrong with the World?

- 1) It's influenced by Satan!
 - a) John 12:31 calls him the "prince of this world"
 - b) 2 Cor 5:5 calls him the "god of this world...who blinds the minds..."

1 John 5:19 "we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness."

Poneros: translated evil 51x, wicked 10x, Wickedness 1x; And "the wicked one" 6x

It comes from the root word "Ponos" which means Hurtful!

- That's why 1 John 2:15-16 tells us: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh...lust of the eyes, the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away..."
 - 2) He uses its "stuff" to: Deceive us (2 Cor. 11); Distract us (2 Tim. 4:10); Delay us (2 Tim. 2:4); and Destroy us! (Jn 10:10)

Mark 4:19 "the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and lusts of other things, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful."

Conclusion: The final plea of the Lord's Prayer is

"Lead us not into temptation, but Deliver us from Evil"
Satan uses the current (pull) of our Carnal Flesh (James 4:1-3; Jer. 17:9)
and this Corrupt World (James 4:4; 1 Jn. 2:15,16) To pull us toward his snares.

(2 Tim. 2:26) "who are taken captive by him at his will"

1 Cor 10:12 "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Application: Are you caught in an evil current?

Weeds of Worry? Labyrinth of Lust? Vines of Vanity? Thorns of Temptation? Pr 5:22-23 "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, he shall be holden with the cords of his sins." James 4:6-8 "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

- > Submit yourselves therefore to God.
- Resist the devil, and he'll flee from you.
- Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you."

Heb. 6:19 "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" What & Who are you anchored to?