

## Matthew 6:12-13

### Verse 12

#### Our debt

- Every human owes a debt to God. His standard is perfection and righteousness. We have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (**Romans 3:23**).
- The wages of our debt of sin is death (**Romans 6:23**).
- No human can pay this debt on their own.
- If we owe a debt in our society (mortgages, loans, etc) and do not pay there are punishments that are levied in the way of fines, forecloses, repossessions, etc.
- The punishment for the debt we have unto God is eternal damnation under the immutable wrath of God.
- We either die with our debt being owed which results in the lake fire or our debt having been paid by Christ which is eternal life in our eternal home to dwell with God forever.
- For the believer, Christ has paid your debt that you could not pay.
  - **Colossians 2:13-15** When you were dead <sup>(k)</sup>in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, <sup>14</sup>having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>When He had <sup>(l)</sup>disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through <sup>(m)</sup>Him.
  - **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- The debt was paid by the blood of the Lamb
  - **1 Peter 1:18-19** knowing that you were not <sup>(a)</sup>redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, <sup>19</sup>but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.
- On the Cross Jesus cried out tetelestai which means "finished, complete, paid in full." The word tetelestai was written on receipts of debts when it was paid in full.
  - **John 19:30** Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

#### Forgives our debts/sins and forgets

- When Jesus forgives us and our debts He forgets our sins.
  - **Jeremiah 31:34** They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the Lord, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."
  - **Hebrews 8:12** "For I will be merciful to their iniquities, And I will remember their sins no more."
  - **Isaiah 43:25** "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.
- The omniscient (all knowing) immutable (unchanging) God does not forget as we think in terms of forgetting. He does not get amnesia or dementia and forgets our sins. He will forever know all sins even after He forgives us.
- What is the point of these verses about God forgetting is that He doesn't hold them against us or our account. He forgets them against us. He does not bring them back and throw them in our face but removes them as charges against us.
- We are to have the same mind when it comes to those who wrong us. When we truly and honestly forgive as Christ has taught, we can still remember, but we do not bring them back up against them, hold it over their head, or use it as leverage against them. If one engages in these things, then true forgiveness probably has not been granted as Christ commands us to do.
- We are to forgive others who wrong us as Christ does. He forgives and doesn't hold it against us anymore.
  - **Romans 4:7-8** Blessed are those whose lawless deeds have been forgiven, And whose sins have been covered. <sup>8</sup>"Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will not take into account."

## Verse 13

- God does not tempt us with evil.
  - **James 1:13-15** Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted <sup>[a]</sup>by God”; for God cannot be tempted <sup>[b]</sup>by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. <sup>14</sup> But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. <sup>15</sup> Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin <sup>[a]</sup>is accomplished, it brings forth death.
- We are tempted by our own lust and by the devil.
- **Examples of tempted in the Bible**
  - Job tempted by the devil (Job)
  - Peter tempted by the devil (**Luke 22:31,32**)
  - Jesus tempted by the devil (**Matthew 4:11**)
    - **1 Peter 5:8** Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
- This is a prayer for God to mercifully keep us from the assault and the temptation of the devil lest we stumble and sin. It is also a prayer that God keep and help us to stay away from temptations that entices our lusts that would cause us to sin as we can be easily ambushed and deceived by sin. However, if we do face the assault and temptation from the devil and temptation as we are enticed by our own lusts, then our prayer is that God delivers us from the temptation as He is our only hope as we fight in His armor and the strength of His might (**Ephesians 6:10-17**).
  - **1 Corinthians 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.
  - *We are in danger from the devil and sin if the Lord does not protect and deliver us* (Calvin).

## Ending with doxology

- Early manuscripts did not contain this doxology.
- At the close of this prayer doxology is set forth unto God.
- His is the kingdom as He is the Sovereign ruler over all as He is the King of Kings who kingdom will never end
- His is the omnipotent God with all power in Heaven and on earth
- His intrinsic glory is worth of praise for all eternity and then more.
  - **Romans 11:36** For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him *be* the glory <sup>[a]</sup>forever. Amen.
  - **Jude 25** to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *be* glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and <sup>[a]</sup>forever. Amen.

We are commanded to pray without ceasing (**1 Thess 5:17**) yet prayer is something we all struggle with. His disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray and our desire should be the same. Here in the sermon on the mount we get to hear Jesus teach us how to pray as He gives us this model for prayer. Let us surrender our prayer life into conformity with His teaching. Let us understand the undeserved privilege to address the eternal God as Father. Let our petition be that the name of our Father continuously be holy in our words and actions. Let us pray that the kingdom of God and the things of will take priority in our lives as we seek the kingdom of God first and display that He is King over all including our lives. Let us pray that God we surrender and pray that the decretive will of God that we may not know to be done as we trust Him will all our souls. Let us also pray that sanctification which is the preceptive will of God be our will and be done in our lives every second of our lives. Let us then pray that God mercifully supply our daily needs. Let us pray that we understand the debt that we could not pay and be in continuous thanks for Christ paying our debt by His blood on the cross as He declared *tetelestai*. As Christ has forgiven us and no longer holds our sins against our account, let us pray that we would forgive as Christ has forgiven us. Let us pray that God would keep us from temptation and from the assault of the enemy lest we stumble. However, if we are tempted and tested let us pray that God deliver us as He is the only means of escape. As we reflect on this prayer and all that it teaches, let our souls and voices lift up doxology to our God to whom belongs all glory, majesty, dominion, and authority from before and now and forever. Let us remember the two rules for prayer: 1.) Remember to whom you are speaking. 2) Remember who you are. “Lord teach us to pray.” As Jesus said in this prayer “Pray then in this way.”