

Ephesians 3; Lord's Day 52
LEAD ME NOT INTO TEMPTATION

- I. The fear of danger.
 - A. Sin is a power, against which we need protection.
 - 1. We are not finished with sin yet; the danger has not passed and we are fools to think that the battle is finished.
 - 2. Those who are forgiven must still be on guard and fight every second against a dreadful power.
 - B. Two things are required to pray this petition sincerely.
 - 1. First, we must have an attitude of enmity against sin and the evil one; the forgiven soul hates sin.
 - 2. Second, we must have a certain fear of sin in order to pray this petition sincerely.
- II. This petition expresses our knowledge of our Father's power.
 - A. We ask this of our heavenly Father because we know He is in sovereign control of all, including temptations.
 - 1. We believe that the world of temptations is under God's control – over against a dualism (God and Satan fighting).
 - 2. God sets us before temptations to sin in order to teach us.
 - 3. Thus, God does it to reveal the power of His work of grace to us and in us.
 - B. With this petition we ask:
- III. With the trials God sends deliverance, for which we are praying.
 - A. God promises help.
 - B. The experience of deliverance.
 - C. May our awareness of how easy it is for us to fall cause us to be constant in our praying and watching.