

**Psalm 66; Lord's Day 52**  
**PRAYING TO BE DELIVERED FROM EVIL**

- I. The danger.
  - A. Dangers threaten from all sides, temptations sneak up on us; sin lies at the door.
    - 1. Those who are forgiven must still be on guard and fight every second against a dreadful power.
    - 2. Tremendous still is the power of sin and the destruction it brings into the life of believers. Consider David (II Sam. 12:11-13).
  - B. Two things are required to pray this petition sincerely.
    - 1. First, we must work to maintain an attitude of enmity against sin and the evil one.
    - 2. Second, this petition implies that we know how bad sin is and how weak he is (cannot stand a moment apart from grace).
- 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.
  - B. With this petition we ask:
    - 1. That we not be surrendered to Satan to go astray.
    - 2. That we know that we are so inclined to sin and will certainly fall, except we be kept by the power of God (I Peter 1:5).
    - 3. That we be given the strength to resist, to stand in the fight, and to turn to God (Canons V, 7,11).
    - 4. That we desire to be pleasing to God.
    - 5. That we constantly watch and pray, lest we enter into temptation (Canons V-4).
- III. With the trials God sends deliverance, for which we are praying.
  - A. That Jesus taught us to pray this petition implies that we can confidently expect God to answer this petition.
  - B. The experience of deliverance.
  - C. Conclusions.