

Deliver Us from Evil

Matthew 6:9-13

10.30.2022

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Matthew 6:9-13

“This, then, is how you should pray:

‘Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,

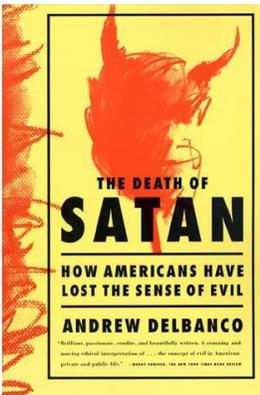
but deliver us from the evil one.’”

Revelation 12:11

They triumphed over him [Satan, the devil]
by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony.

Matthew 4:1

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.



“Nothing happened to me, Officer Starling; I happened. You can’t reduce me to a set of influences. You’ve given up good and evil for behaviorism, Officer Starling. You’ve got everyone in moral dignity pants. Nothing is ever anyone’s fault. Look at me. Can you stand to say I’m evil?”

“Modern people cannot answer the monster’s question. A gulf has opened up in our culture between the visibility of evil and the intellectual resources for

coping with it...We have jettisoned in the West the idea of cosmic evil, or transcendent evil, or supernatural evil. We don't believe in it. In fact, we don't like to use the word evil because it implies moral absolutes and value judgements. So we use medical terms. We talk about dysfunction. We talk about pathology. We don't use moral terminology. But as the twentieth century has gone on it has gotten harder and harder to say that holocausts and ethnic cleansing and serial killing is just bad psychological and sociological adjustment."

- Andrew Delblanco, *The Death of Satan*

Satan (Hebrew: *Ha Satan*): adversary, opposer

Devil (Greek: *Diabolos*): slanderer, accuser

The biblical picture of the satan is a nonhuman and non divine quasi-personal force which seems bent on attacking and destroying creation in general and humankind in particular, and above all on thwarting God's project of remaking the world and human beings in and through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. [NT Wright, *Evil & the Justice of God*]

John 8:44

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Satan does not "create" by his own means. Rather he sustains himself as a parasite on what God creates by imitating God in a manner that is jealous,

grotesque, perverse, and as contrary as possible to the upright and obedient imitation of Jesus. To repeat, Satan is an imitator in the rivalistic sense of the word. His kingdom is a caricature of the kingdom of God.

[René Girard, *I See Satan Fall Like Lightning*]

Ephesians 4:26-27

“In your anger do not sin:” Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.