

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED ON PAUL'S LETTER TO THE CHURCH IN ROME

GOD'S WILL BE DONE

Romans 9:20-21 “. . . who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’ “Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?”

Jesus' Disciples asked Him to teach them to pray. In response to their request, He taught them what we know today as “The Lord's Prayer.” The Lord's Prayer has an introduction that indicates this prayer is directed to God the Father. This is followed by seven petitions or they could be called mini-prayers. They include requests regarding spiritual needs and also daily, earthly needs. The prayer then closes with a conclusion.

The third of the mini-prayers, the third petition, is a request that God will ensure that His will is done in your life. Martin Luther explained how God's will is done in these words, “God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die.” (Small Catechism, page 186)

Satan, the world around you and your sinful flesh want to shape and mold you to think, speak and act as if you are in charge of your life. As Satan led Eve and then through her Adam to trust in their own choice and judgment rather than God's, so he daily seeks out ways to mislead you. John writes, those who love the world do not have the love of the Father in them. (1 John 2:15-17) Listening to your Old Adam and following the promptings of your sinful flesh will lead you to disobedience of God and bring harm to your life.

God, by His power and will guards you through faith to your salvation through Christ Jesus. (1 Peter 1:5) He leads you through His Word on paths that are in accord with His commandments. (Psalm 119:105) As you read and meditated a few days ago in your daily devotions, He works for your good and that you live your life according to His purpose for your good. (Romans 8:28) He fills your heart with His grace and power which is all-sufficient, making you perfect even in your weaknesses. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Prayer: Heavenly Father, Thy will be done in my life as it is done in heaven.” Amen.

Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!
(LSB 733)