The Lord’s Prayer: 
a comparison from Bible translations through the ages
Matthew 6: 9 – 13

As the translators and interpreters work, what changes, what remains the same?
Are these topics addressed: origin, perspective, recognition, humility, request, repentance, deliverance, dominion, glory? What other topics?

Did Jesus model a prayer that requested deliverance from another god called evil or Evil One, or did he overcome the mortal fear of an Evil One, and take delivery on the fact that there’s only one God expressing dominion and glory in man?

At the end of these pages, write your own version of the Lord’s Prayer.
(compiled by Sara Ann Lincoln July, 2008)

John Wycliffe prepared an English Bible in 1382 — the first European translation done in over 1,000 years. Here is John Wycliffe’s translation of the Lord’s Prayer, Matthew 6: 9-13:

Oure fadir that art in heuenes, halewid be thi name; thi kyngdoom come to; be thi wille don `in erthe as in heuene; yyu to vs this dai oure `breed ouer othir substauce; and foryyue to vs oure dettis, as we foryyuen to oure dettouris; and lede vs not in to temptacioun, but delyuere vs fro yuel. Amen.

Myles Coverdale prepared The Great Bible in 1538. It was the first authorized edition of the Bible in English, authorized by King Henry VIII of England to be read aloud in the church services of the Church of England. It went through over 30 editions, the last edition appearing in 1569. Coverdale's New Testament is a revision of Tindale’s 1534 Bible, on the basis of the Latin Vulgate and Luther's German version.

Book of Common Prayer 1559
(modern spelling, ed. Booty, 1976)
Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

King James Version (Luke) 1611
Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.
Give us day by day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
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King James Version  (Matthew)  1611
Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures  by Mary Baker Eddy  1875
Here let me give what I understand to be the spiritual sense of the Lord’s Prayer:
Our Father which art in heaven,  
Our Father-Mother God, all-harmonious,
Hallowed be Thy name.  Adorable One.
Thy kingdom come.  Thy kingdom is come; Thou art ever-present.
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
  Enable us to know, — as in heaven, so on earth, — God is omnipotent, supreme.
Give us this day our daily bread;  Give us grace for to-day; feed the famished affections;
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  And Love is reflected in love;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
  And God leadeth us not into temptation, but delivereth us from sin, disease, and death.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
  For God is infinite, all-power, all Life, Truth, Love, over all, and All.

Book of Common Prayer  1928
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

James Moffatt Translation  1954
Our Father in heaven, thy name be revered,
thy Reign begin, thy will be done on earth as in heaven!
give us to-day our bread for the morrow,
and forgive us our debts as we ourselves have forgiven our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Our Heavenly Father, may your name be honored;
May your kingdom come, and your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Forgive us what we owe to you, as we have also forgiven those who owe anything to us.
Keep us clear of temptation, and save us from evil.
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New English Bible  1961
Our Father in heaven, thy name be hallowed;
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us the wrong we have done, as we have forgiven those who have wronged us.
And do not bring us to the test, but save us from the evil one.

Good News for Modern Man: Today’s English Version  1966
Our Father in heaven: May your name be kept holy,
May your Kingdom come, May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the food we need;
Forgive us the wrongs that we have done,
As we forgive the wrongs that others have done us;
Do not bring us to hard testing, but keep us safe from the Evil One

New American Bible  1970
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 the wrong we have done as we forgive those who wrong us.
Subject us not to the trial but deliver us from the evil one.

Our Father in Heaven, let your holy name be known, let your kingdom come, and your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today the bread that we need, and forgive us our wrongs, as we forgive those who have done wrong to us.
Do not lead us into trial, but save us from evil.

New King James Version  1982
Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

New International Version  1984
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.
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.
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New Jerusalem Bible  1985
Our Father in heaven. May your name be held holy.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven those who are in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test, but save us from the Evil One.

Life Application Study Bible  NIV  1988
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.
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

The New Revised Standard Version  1989
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

New Century Version  1991
Our Father in heaven, may your name always be kept holy.
May your kingdom come, and what you want be done, here on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us the food we need for each day.
Forgive us for our sins, just as we have forgiven those who sinned against us.
And do not cause us to be tempted, but save us from the Evil One.

The Message  Eugene Peterson  1993
Our Father in heaven,
Reveal who you are.
Set the world right;
Do what’s best – as above, so below.
Keep us alive with three square meals.
Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.
Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil.
You’re in charge!
You can do anything you want!
You’re ablaze in beauty!
Yes. Yes. Yes.
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Contemporary English Version   1995
Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.  
Come and set up your kingdom,  
so that everyone on earth will obey you, as you are obeyed in heaven.  
Give us our food for today.  
Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others.  
Keep us from being tempted and protect us from evil.

New Living Translation   1996
Our Father in heaven may your name be honored.  
May your Kingdom come soon.  
May your will be done here on earth, just as it is in heaven.  
Give us our food for today,  
and forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.  
And don’t let us yield to temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Today’s New International Version   2001
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.

English Standard Version   2001
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day 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 evil.

Holman Christian Standard Bible   2004
Our Father in heaven,  
Your name be honored as holy.  
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 do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.  
{For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.}