

The Lord's Prayer: The Third Petition

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean?

The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done?

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.

This is His good and gracious will.

What is the will of God? The Explanation of the Small Catechism says that it is God's good and gracious will that everyone would come to know Him as their dear Father and live under the rule of His loving Son. People come to know Him by His Word. In this petition, we are asking God to remove any obstacles or barriers between His Word and others. We're also asking for His will to be done in us, that we would live according to His Word.

Prayer:

Father, Your will be done in us and around the world. Remove all obstacles between us and Your Word. Amen.