LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION.

His Eminence, Cardinal Manning, recently concluded the series of discourses on the Lord's Prayer by the last petition, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." God tempts no man to evil, but He tries every man that he may be saved. The words temptation and trial were radically one cvil, but He tries every man that he may be saved. The words temptation and trial were radically one and the same, and, therefore, some confusion has arisen as to the meaning of this petition. St. James says: "Let no man say that he is tempted of God, for God is not a tempter of evil, and He tempted no man. But every man is tempted, being drawn by his own concupiscence," and the same Apostle says: "Blessed is the man who endureth temptation, for when he hath been proved he shall receive the crown of life, which God gives to them that love Him." His faith is tried in the fire, and if faith stands the trial he receives the reward. Another sense of temptation is when God tempted Abraham to leave his kindred home and house and go into the land He should show him. God laid on him this commandment to try Abraham's faith, And, again, after telling him that his seed should be as the stars of Heaven, God bade him sacrifice his only son, it after telling him that his seed should be as the stars of Heaven, God bade him sacrifice his only son, it was to see whether he would believe the word of God. In the same way in the temptation of Job. He was tempted to impatience, but he never murnured at the will of God. God will try every man whether he be faithful, and Satan will tempt him to whether he be faithful, and Satan will tempt him to his destruction if he can. This petition means suffer us not to be tempted above what we are able to enflure, or above our strength. These trials are times of danger, and we pray that we may pass free through ther. "Deliver us from evil" signifies also from the Evil one, the author and source of all temptation. Consider the nature of temptation. It is not a mere abstract thing, but a personal agency. We are personally tempted by a personal tempter. This world in which we live appears to most men all that exists; but if we had faith to see beyond it we should be conscious of the presence of an infinite, omniscient, and omnipotent God, whose presence omniscient, and omnipotent God, whose presence always encompassed and enveloped us; and, under Him, angels and created spirits, charged with the agency and ministration of His Kingdom; and angels of evil—fallen, perverted spirits—nevertheless personal, and always in activity to destroy the souls of men. There is nothing Satan desires more than that we should disbelieve in his existence. A than that we should disbelieve in his existence. A secret enemy not seen is more to be feared and dreaded than an open one. Such is Satan, and he desires to be mocked, laughed at, that man may lose the fear of his existence, and say, "There's no God and no devil." But there is this personal spirit of evil always in activity to tempt us. He tempts us one by one. He tempts us sometimes to be proud, sometimes to abase ourselver; sometimes to be falsely charitable, sometimes to be selfish. He varies his temptation, not only to our character, but to our temptation, not only to our character, but to our mood. Our Divine Lord was tempted by Satan mood. Our Divine Lord was tempted by Satan three times, in order that the veil of this invisible world should be drawn on one side for our instrucworld should be drawn on one side for our instruc-tion. We are all subject to temptation—and temp-tation may be said to be universal. Satan is the God of this world, the prince of this earth, and per-vades the world, in its corrupt habits, sins, and lusts, which like a miasma covers the face of mankind and poisons our souls. Satan uses the world as his great instrument of temptation. All the senses of men open to temptation, the eyes, the ears, and the other senses. It is not the seeing, but the looking; not the hearing, but the listening which destroys our souls. St. Paul bids us take the whole armor or panoply of God. He bids us cover ourselves with the breast plate of justice, with the halmet of salvation, and to take the shield of faith and the sword of the spirit, that you may be able to quench the fiery darts of the wicked one; that is, you need armor to cover you from head to foot to withstand the attacks of the enemy of your salvation. Temp-tation is no sin. Adam was tempted in his inno-cence. Our Divine Lord was tempted. The greatest saints have been tempted all their lives. Sin is in the consent of the will. He can reach the imagination and the passions, but not the will. God Himself never forces the will of man, or it would Affinself never forces the will and it would become sin against our own will; if we consent, our will becomes Satan's will. It is not so, because we give it to him. The Word of God says, "with all diligence keep thy heart, for out of it issues life; and if life, also death." If we withstand the evil, life comes out of it; if we consent, death comes out of it. Not only is temptation no sin, but it may be made the means of glorifying God and sanctifying our own souls. Every time we resist temptation we make an act of the love of God, which will be our own souls. Every time we resist temptation we make an act of the love of God, which will be more precious than if it were said on our knees. The time of temptation, if only we resist, is not the time in which we love grace and purity of heart, but in which we grow in sanctification. No one meed be discouraged because tempted. There is no man who is not tempted. Everyone has his besetting sin and his besetting temptation. St. James says: "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation, for he shall receive a crown as his reward." In the proverbs it is said: "My son, when thou comest to serve the Lord, stand in justice and in fear, and prepare thy soul for temptation." We must all stand in fear; but when the temptation comes, if you resist it your crown will be certain and those most tempted, if faithful, will be most rewarded. When we say this petition we bind ourselves not to go into temptation or the occasions of temptation. Many innocent things may be occasions of sin (as he had before explained), such as friendship, books, and recreations. His Eminence here entered a protest against parents for permitting books of evil or doubtful character to enter their homes, and while inveighing against certain French works regretted that the same kind of pestilence we beginning to pervade even our own literature. The one great rule to keep ourselves safe tilence wrs beginning to pervade even our own literature. The one great rule to keep ourselves safe in temptation was to observe the rule that God gave to Abraham, "Walk before Me and be perfect."

To walk in the constant fear and presence of God To walk in the constant fear and presence of God Always to bear in mind the justice, purity, and sanctity of God, for all these surround you like the rays of the sun. If you live in the presence of God you will always keep your minds pure. God has promised not to let you be tempted above your strength, and to be with you in time of temptation. God is trying you in temptation and purifying you, and if faithful He will bruise Satan under your fact. He Finioner then recanitulated the various and it faithful He will bruse satah under your feet. His Eminenee then recapitulated the various petitions of the Lord's Prayer, and exhorted his hearers to say it often but slowly, and to reflect well on its words, every one of which were golden and they would find in it strength, consolation, and confidence in every conflict with the powers of

A young drunkard in New Bedford was so peni-tent after a long spree that, on appearing before his employer, he dropped on his knees and begged to be shot, offering to sign his own death warrant. His fellow-clerks solemnly drew up a document purporting to authorize the execution, made the still dazed debauchee sign it, put a revolver at his head and exploded a harmless fire-cracker behind him. It was fun for the jokers, but it came very near being death for the nervous victim.

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