

Heidelberg Catechism
Lord's Day 50
Part 1

Q. 125. What is the fourth petition?

A. 125. "Give us this day our daily bread;" that is, be pleased to provide for all our bodily need,¹ so that we may thereby acknowledge that You are the only fountain of all good,² and that without Your blessing neither our care and labor, nor Your gifts, can profit us;³ that we may therefore withdraw our trust from all creatures and place it in You alone.⁴

[1] Ps. 104:27–28; 145:15–16; Matt. 6:25–26. [2] Acts 14:17; 17:27–28. [3] 1 Cor. 15:58; Deut. 8:3; Ps. 37:3–7, 16–17. [4] Ps. 55:22; 62:10; *Ps. 127:1–2; *Jer. 17:5, 7; *Ps. 146:2–3.

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²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"
²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'
³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and **your heavenly Father** knows that you need them all. ³³ But **seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.** ³⁴ "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Matthew 6. 25-34

I. What are we asking in this petition?

"... be pleased to provide for all our bodily need..."

A. To recognize the generous provision of God - **Give us** this day our daily bread

¹⁰ **You** make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills;

¹¹ they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

¹² Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell; they sing among the branches.

¹³ From **your** lofty abode **you** water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of **your** work.

¹⁴ **You** cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth

*These all look to **you**, to give them their food in due season.*

²⁸ When **you** give it to them, they gather it up; when **you** open **your** hand, they are filled with good things. ²⁹ When **you** hide your face, they are dismayed; when **you** take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

Psalms 104. 10-14, 27-29

B. To understand our own neediness - Give us **this day** our **daily** bread

¹⁶ This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.'"
¹⁷ And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸ But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. ¹⁹ And Moses said to them, "Let no one leave any of it over till the morning." ²⁰ But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. ²¹ Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

Exodus 16. 16-21

³ And the Lord your God humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶ So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹ a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. ¹⁰ And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

Deuteronomy 8. 3-10

C. To work hard each day & not to be anxious for the next day - Give us *this day* **our** daily bread

Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.
² It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Psalms 127. 1-2

... thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.'"

1 Kings 17.14

¹⁸ Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot.
¹⁹ Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.

Ecclesiastes 5. 18-19

D. To trust God for all we need - Give us *this day* our daily **bread**

Jesus said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully,¹⁷ and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?'¹⁸ And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.'¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'"²⁰ But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

²² He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on."²³ For life is more than food, & the body more than clothing.

³² "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."³³ Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Luke 12. 15-23, 32-34

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour I need You...

Lord I Need You, Matt Maher

II. What does this petition teach us?

- A. God alone supplies our needs
- B. Without Him nothing is of profit to us
- C. We must not trust in anyone or anything but God alone