

Prayer for those who want our harm

would make me deserve the words of Jesus which say: You have already received your reward.²

46. Introduction. Jesus says: Love even your enemies. These words highlight the moral excellence of Christian teachings.

The divine laws exempt us from seeking company of a person whom we distrust. We are also released from feeling for an enemy the same affection we have for a friend. But God expects us to forgive our offenders, to pray for them, to respect them and to repay evil with good.¹

47. Prayer. My God! I forgive [person's name] as I want being forgiven. Inhibit me from disrespecting and slandering them. Free me from having evil desire against them. Disable me from feeling joy for misfortunes that befall them. Keep me from feeling bothered by benefits they receive. Help me to discard thoughts that are unbecoming of a Christian. I ask you to guide them to feeding better feelings, including, if allowed, towards me.

Inspire me to forget the evil they did, and to remember only the good they practiced. Free me from sheltering rancor, hatred, revenge desire and other spiritual poisons. Instead, help me being ready to offer them a helping hand. If you think fit, allow me an opportunity to assist them. But in this case prevent me from helping them with pride, for this is a kind of vengeance that

1 - See chapter 12, items 3 and 4.

2 - See chapter 13 from item 1 onwards.