

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 18:1-8

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

DON'T JUST STAND THERE, PRAY ABOUT IT – PART 1

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,
THE SON OF GOD, SON OF MAN, SAVIOR OF ALL MANKIND*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Perseverance, Prayer, Earnest, Intercession, Faithfulness

With all of the Christian Privileges that we have as Believers,
Prayer and Praying is by Far the Most Powerful Resource of All,
Yet it's perhaps the Least taken advantage of and Least understood.

Luke 18:1-8

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men ought **always to pray and not lose heart, :2** saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. **:3** Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, "Get justice for me from my adversary.' **:4** And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, "Though I do not fear God nor regard man, **:5** yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'" **:6** Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. **:7** And shall God not **avenge** His own elect who **cry out day and night** to Him, though He **bears** long with them? **:8** I tell you that He will **avenge** them **speedily**. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find **faith** on the earth?"

The "Location" of this Teaching - - on the heels of chapter 17

Here Jesus Establishes the Lesson (1) It's a Parable

"always be talking to God and never quit"

&

Then Jesus shows us (2) a Contrast

of What God "Is Not Like" so we will be encouraged.

DON'T JUST STAND THERE, PRAY ABOUT IT

1.) Christian, Your God is Waiting to Hear You v.1-3

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men ought **always to pray** and **not lose heart**, :2 saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. :3 Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, "Get justice for me from my adversary."

Note the Circumstances...

first;

there's a powerless, helpless, widow in need of protection.
this is a picture of a dreadful situation. a woman abandoned and without strength.

second

there's a powerful, heartless, judge who's proud.
this is a picture of an authority figure who could not care less about anybody.

Many Have Mistakenly Seen this as Our Relationship to the Lord, but the opposite is true

Church - we've often failed to know Him very well.
we've chosen not to get too close to Him.

1a.) Make talking to God your priority v.1

Then He spoke a parable to them saying, "men ought always to pray"

Understanding The Nature of God

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. :29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. :30 For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light."

this can only happen if you determine today
to "**live in His Presence**"
we do that by walking into the "room" by prayer.
(and everything we need is in that room)

to “Walk With God” is to live in the Reality of God

Genesis 5:24

And **Enoch walked with God**; and he was not, for God took him.

Hebrews 11:5

By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

pray without ceasing,

Philippians 4:6:7

Be **anxious** for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; :7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

prayer seems to be what keeps the Christian's
armor on;

The Amplified Bible

Ephesians 6:18

Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose *and* perseverance, interceding on behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people).

YOUR GOD IS WAITING TO HEAR YOU

1b.) Make talking to God your discipline v.1b

men ought **not to lose heart**,

church, hear this;

*there is a perfect and direct correlation between
my emotions and the will of God.*

Prayer Brings My Emotions Under His Control.
discouragement leaves, **fear** is abated, **worry** is no longer a factor.

Verse 17:20-37

Jesus just got done telling us that there is an end coming to the world and that the kingdom is on its way and that Christ Himself would return.

but until He does return, what are we to be doing as Christians?

we're to be fully engaged.

engaged in the **culture**, engaged in reaching the **world**,
engaged in **loving** people practically.

The Truth Is;

If we don't pray, we will lose heart.

And losing heart and keeping the faith are inseparable

Psalm 42:5-6

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and :6 my God. My soul is downcast within me;
therefore I will remember you

what's the issue(s) of your life?

pause for a moment - I want you to grab it and hold on to it.

is it **impossible** to you? - excellent! // is it too **painful** for you? - great!

is it too **big** for you? - perfect! // is it **out of reach** to you? - good!

**“Awesome, Because All That He Has Asked of Us - is
For Us to Ask of Him.”**

Always **pray** and **Never** lose heart

YOUR GOD IS WAITING TO HEAR YOU

1c.) Make talking to God your strength

v.2-3

saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who **did not fear God**
nor **regard man**. :3 Now there was a widow in that city; **and she came to him**, saying,
“Get justice for me from my adversary.”

Remember Now - This Is a Parable of Contrast.

this word-picture is not to show us what God is like, but rather what He is not like. The Lord is not like this judge.

the “teaching-contrast” is that **we are not like this poor widow**. the conclusion is, **the Lord is eager and excited to hear our requests and ready and able to hear our cries.**

A Parable of Contrasts - 3 Key Points

Fainting is Contrasted to **Praying**

A Helpless Widow is Contrasted to **The Believer**

An Unjust Judge Contrasted with **The Lord of All Comfort**

the word here used by Jesus is remarkable.

“and she CAME to him”

this “Came” suggests that she not only came to him at the courthouse, but his own house. - - she pestered him on the street, at the market, in front of his friends and on his day off. she began **to wear him down...**

Our God is Not Like This Judge

Matthew 7:7-8

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. :8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Ephesians 2:18

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Ephesians 3:12

in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. :15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. :16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, **:20** by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, **:21** and *having* a High Priest over the house of God, **:22** let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

DON'T JUST STAND THERE, PRAY ABOUT IT

2.) Christian, Your God is Willing to Answer You v.4-6

:4 And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, "Though I do not fear God nor regard man, **:5** yet because this widow **troubles** me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she **weary** me." **:6** Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said.

2a.) The Lord is never avoiding you v.4a

And he **would not** for a while;

**Does the Lord ever Avoid Me and My Prayers? - No
but He does allow time to pass – at times!**

a personal note from jack:

"I have come to believe that God answers our prayers.

personally, I see that it doesn't take Him long to answer,
but it does take me long to receive the answer."

We Have an Awesome Snapshot Into the Unseen Spirit World

Daniel 10:1-3,10,12-13

I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. **:3** I ate no bread, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled... **:10** Suddenly, the hand of an angel hand touched me, which made me to tremble, I went to my knees and *on* the palms of my hands... **:12** Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from **the first day** that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, **your words were heard**; and I have come because of your words. **:13** But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; demonic noise

Psalm 34:15

The eyes of the LORD *are* on **the righteous**, And His ears *are* **open to their cry**.

a sense of unworthiness and fear

Robs us of victorious prayer. unless (we see prayer properly) we will neglect praying all together

Christian - - Praying Is To Be Like Breathing

(a natural function)

prayer should never be a merit issue or a robotic

Matthew 6:5,7

“And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. :7 And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

YOUR GOD IS WILLING TO ANSWER YOU

2b.) The Lord is never tired of you

v.4b-5

but afterward he said within himself, “*Though I do not fear God nor regard man, :5 yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.*”

weary ὑπνωπιαζω hupopiazō, *hoop-o pee-ad’-zo;*

to strike the eye repeatedly. The word used here came out of the Greek Olympic games of Jesus’ day. meaning to “blacken the eye” or to “box the eye” until it’s blackened and ready to bleed.

this woman’s persistence was equal to a boxer punching the judge’s eye repeatedly.

The Contrast Is This;

we don’t have to pester the Lord - He is the opposite of the judge.

The Lord is gracious, loving, kind, gentle, and patient and whatever God is, He is Infinitely so.

We Never Have to Whine to God

the “**timing**” of God and our “**prayers**”.

But I’ve Not Heard Back Yet From The Lord

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. :8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. :9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. :10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Do I Really Trust the Lord **With My Life** – Really?

Do I Trust the Lord **For My Family** – Really?

Do I Really Trust the Lord **with My Future** – Really?

YOUR GOD IS WILLING TO ANSWER YOU

2c.) The Lord is never rejecting you v.6

Then the Lord said, "**Hear** what the unjust judge said.

Hear ajkou/w akouo, ak-oo'-o; to give audience, to apply understanding.

Your God and Father,

is not some angry, grumpy judge.

He wants to answer us with;

compassion, understanding, wisdom, experience and what's best for us.

Only The Lord God of The Bible Can Answer Your Prayers

Learn a Lesson from the Prophets of Ba'al

1 Kings 18:26

So the prophets of Ba'al took the bull which was given them, and they prepared *it*, and called on the name of Ba'al from morning even till noon, saying, "O Ba'al, hear us!" But *there was* no voice; no one answered. Then they leaped about the altar which they had made. :27 And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he *is* a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, *or* perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened." :28 So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. :29 And when midday was past, they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice. But *there was* no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention.

John 17:1-26

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, :2 as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. :3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. :4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. :5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. :6 ¶ "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. :7 Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. :8 For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. :9 "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. :10 And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. :11 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as *We are*. :12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. :13 But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. :14 I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. :15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. :16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. :17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. :18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. :19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. :20 ¶ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; :21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. :22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as *We are* one: :23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. :24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. :25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. :26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

Psalm 84:11

For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good *thing* will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

what question should you ask?

"Why Should I Care?"

that's right, why should you care?

End of Study