



“Parable of The Persistent Widow”

Luke 18:1-8

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Unpacking the Parable:

v. 2 = The _____:

- Did not fear God
- Did not regard man

v. 3 = The _____:

- Was left with no protection or provision.
- Scripture places a high value on taking care of widows.
(Exodus 22:22; Deuteronomy 27:19; I Timothy 5:1)

v. 4-5 = Initially the judge does nothing but reconsiders. Why?

- Not because he was God-fearing or cared about people.
- Because of her _____.
- The judge was willing to _____ her. (to vindicate one’s right or exercise justice.)

v. 6-8 = If the unjust judge answers the persistent request for justice, _____ will God “avenge His own elect?”

- “Elect” = His dearly beloved _____.
(I Peter 1:2; Ephesians 1:4-5)
- “Who cry out day and night” indicates the intensity of prayer.
- “He will avenge them speedily” means God will render _____ swiftly. (Romans 12:19; Revelation 6:9-10)
- Does God ever delay in answering our prayers?
(Isaiah 55:9; I John. 5:14-15)
- The faith implied here is the kind of faith illustrated in the parable - _____ faith. The kind that prays consistently and faithfully. Especially in light of the Lord’s soon return.

Applying the Parable:

1. _____ Pray. “men ought always to pray”

- We are to pray _____ and _____.
- Parable of the Friend at Midnight (Luke 11:5-13)
- “Pray without ceasing” (I Thessalonians 5:17) means to be in a constant _____ of prayer.
 - o Make it more of a _____ than a list.
 - o _____ your answers to prayer with others.

2. Don’t _____. “and not lose heart”

- “lose heart” = Greek “ekakein” = “faint, lack courage, give up” (Galatians 6:9)
- Is it easy to grow tired and weary in prayer?
 - o Prayer requires time and energy. (Jm. 5:16)
 - o Prayer requires _____. (Eph. 6:18)
 - o Prayer requires patience. (Jm. 5:7)
- Substitutes for prayer?
 - o Our own _____ and strength (Jm. 1:5; Prov. 3:5-6)
 - o Counseling (Prov. 11:14)
 - o _____
 - o Spectator Prayer
 - o _____?

Always pray! Don’t lose heart!

Next Steps?