

The Widow and the Unjust Judge

Luke 18:1–8 | A Teaching on Persistent Faith in Prayer

Introduction: Never Give Up on Prayer

Jesus opens this parable with a clear purpose:

“Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.” (Luke 18:1, NKJV)

This story is not just about prayer, but about the attitude and persistence we should have in prayer. In a world where results are often delayed and opposition is real, Jesus uses this parable to remind us that God sees, God hears, and God will answer — but not always instantly.

Scene 1: A Corrupt Judge and a Desperate Widow

Jesus sets the stage with two main characters:

The Judge:

He did not fear God.

He did not regard man.

This means he had no moral compass, no concern for righteousness, and no compassion for people.

The Widow:

A picture of powerlessness and vulnerability.

She had no husband, no protector, no influence.

Her only weapon was persistence.

“Get justice for me from my adversary,” she kept saying (v. 3).

Key Takeaways:

The widow had an adversary — someone actively working against her.

She had no natural means to fight back — so she appealed to the judge.

Though the judge ignored her “for a while,” she didn’t stop.

Her breakthrough came not because of justice, but because of her relentless pressure.

“Yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.” (v. 5)

Scene 2: A Kingdom Comparison

After telling the story, Jesus turns our attention to the Father.

“Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him?” (vv. 6–7)

Jesus uses contrast to make His point:

If an unjust judge answers the persistent, how much more will a just God respond to His chosen ones?

If a heartless man gives in due to pressure, how much more will a loving Father respond to faith?

Key Points:

God is not unjust, not distant, and not indifferent.

God is righteous, merciful, and ready to act.

The elect — those who belong to Him — are encouraged to cry out day and night.

Even when it seems He delays, He is working behind the scenes.

Faith that Waits, Faith that Persists

Jesus concludes with a haunting question:

“Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?” (v. 8)

This is a sobering reminder that persistent faith is rare. In the last days:

Many will grow cold (Matthew 24:12).

Some will lose heart and stop praying.

Others will compromise or turn back when the answer doesn’t come quickly.

Jesus is calling His people to be like the widow — relentless, resilient, and full of faith.

Spiritual Lessons from the Parable

◆ 1. Pray Always, Don't Faint

The enemy wants you to give up before the answer comes.

Prayer is not just asking — it's contending.

You may be one prayer away from your breakthrough.

◆ 2. God Is Not Like the Unjust Judge

He doesn't ignore us.

He doesn't need to be persuaded to be good.

He delights in answering our cries (Psalm 34:17).

◆ 3. Delay Is Not Denial

The answer may not be immediate, but it's coming.

God is shaping your character through the wait.

He is working in the invisible realm.

◆ 4. Keep Coming Until Heaven Moves

Persistence is an expression of faith.

Faith refuses to take “no” for an answer when God has said “yes” in His Word.

Your adversary is spiritual — your weapon is spiritual persistence (Ephesians 6:12, 18).

◆ 5. God Will Avenge His Elect — Speedily

When the time is right, it will happen quickly.

Suddenly, what was stuck will break loose (Isaiah 60:22).

Justice delayed is not justice denied with God.

Encouragement for Today

If you feel unheard...

If you feel overlooked...

If you’ve prayed and waited...

This parable is for you.

Don’t stop now. God is not deaf. He is not forgetful. And He is not slow as some count slowness (2 Peter 3:9). Your prayer is working. Keep coming.

Follow-Up Prayer...

Father God, in the name of Jesus,

I thank You for every listener, every heart that has received this word. Lord, stir in them the spirit of the persistent widow — a spirit that refuses to give up, that refuses to faint, and that believes You are a just and faithful God.

I pray against the spirit of weariness, discouragement, and delay. I break the power of hopelessness, fainting in prayer, and spiritual apathy. Let faith arise in their hearts. Let boldness come upon them to cry out to You day and night.

Lord, for every person facing an adversary — whether sickness, financial struggle, family crisis, injustice, torment, affliction or spiritual warfare — I speak divine justice in Jesus' name. Arise, O God, and avenge Your elect. Move swiftly on their behalf. Let Your righteous judgments be made manifest in their lives.

Holy Spirit, strengthen them to pray without ceasing. Let them feel Your nearness in the waiting. And when the breakthrough comes, may they give You all the glory and testify boldly.

I declare that You are not an unjust judge, but a loving Father who moves at the sound of Your children's cry. May their prayers pierce the heavens. May their answers come speedily.

In Jesus' mighty name I pray,

Amen.

Pastor Nate Thompson Deliverance Revolution Ministries

DeliveranceRevolution.org Contact us If you need deliverance:

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🔥 Are You Ready to Be Set Free and Step Into Your Calling? 🔥

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🔍 Whether you're battling oppression, possession, depression, or suicidal thoughts, we've seen Jesus transform lives. Our YouTube channel is filled with real testimonies—people who walked in broken but came out victorious.

Our website, DeliveranceRevolution.org, is loaded with life-changing prayers, training, and tools to help you grow into everything God has called you to be.

☐ But hear this: Your freedom starts with your will. You must want it. Pursue Jesus with all your heart, and He will meet you. He will break every chain. This isn't about religion—it's about relationship and relentless pursuit of the King of Kings.

🙏 So, in the mighty name of Jesus, I pray right now: Father, surround them with Your protection, stir their hunger, and draw them into deeper freedom, in Jesus' name. Amen.

➡☐ Don't wait. Get connected. Get trained. Get free. Full-On Jesus is the only way.