Sunday, July 15, 2018


King James Version (KJV)

I. PERSISTENCE IS REQUIRED (Luke 18:1-3)

1. And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

2. Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3. And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

II. PERSISTENCE IS REWARDED (Luke 18:4-5)

4. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

5. Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.
III. PERSISTENCE IS REVIEWED (Luke 18:6-8)

6. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8. I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

New International Version (NIV)

I. PERSISTENCE IS REQUIRED (Luke 18:1-3)

1. Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

2. He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought.

3. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

II. PERSISTENCE IS REWARDED (Luke 18:4-5)
4. “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think,

5. yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

III. PERSISTENCE IS REVIEWED (Luke 18:6-8)

6. And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says.

7. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?

8. I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

PRACTICAL POINTS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. When in trouble, prayer wouldn’t be our last resort if we always pray (Luke 18:1).
2. Unfortunately, there are far too many people in positions of authority who ignore God (Luke 18:2).

3. Persevering in prayer will always pay off (Luke 18:3-5).

4. We should be willing to hear all sides in any situation (Luke 18:6).

5. Although it may seem that God is not listening, we can rest assured that He hears and will respond to our cries for help (Luke 18:7; Psalms 18:6; 34:15).

6. We must never lose faith in God, because we don’t know when the Lord will return (Luke 18:8).

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