



SERMON NOTES

October 30, 2011

Scripture: Luke 18:1-8 (NAS)

Topic: "Praying with Perseverance"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart,
- 2 saying, "In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man.
- 3 "There was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me legal protection from my opponent.'
- 4 "For a while he was unwilling; but afterward he said to himself, 'Even though I do not fear God nor respect man,
- 5 yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out.'"
- 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge *said;
- 7 now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?
- 8 "I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?"

I. WHY DO WE PRAY?

- A. Multitude Of Reasons
- B. The Acrostic A-C-T-S
- C. Many Facets Under Supplication
 1. Daily needs
 2. Salvation of family or friends
 3. Second coming of Christ

II. HOW DO WE PRAY AND NOT LOSE HEART?

- A. First, Know You Are Acting On God's Commands *I Thessalonians 5:17*
- B. Jesus Is Our Savior And Our Example
 1. Occasions of prayer
 2. Productive activity with a focus on God's will
 3. Prayer acknowledges our dependency *Philippians 4:13; John 5:5*

III. WHY DO WE OFTEN GIVE UP TOO QUICKLY?

- A. Repetition
- B. Capable Of Handling The Mundane
- C. Strong Natural Abilities (God Given Abilities)

IV. IS THE BLESSING IN WEAKNESS?

- A. We Should Rejoice In Our Weaknesses *II Corinthians 12:9; 11:30*
- B. They Teach Us To Pray

V. WHAT IS THE MAIN REASON JESUS FOCUSES ON?

- A. Delayed Answer
- B. It Seems God Is Not Hearing
- C. Wicked Judge – Only Parallel With God Is He Has Authority To Grant Request
- D. Argument From The Lesser To The Greater
- E. Our God Cares For Us *Psalms 139:1-6*
- F. Our God Is Able *I Peter 5:6, 7*
- G. His Timing Is Perfect *Psalms 90:4; II Peter 3:8*
- H. His Plan For His Elect Children Is For Their Good *Romans 8:28*