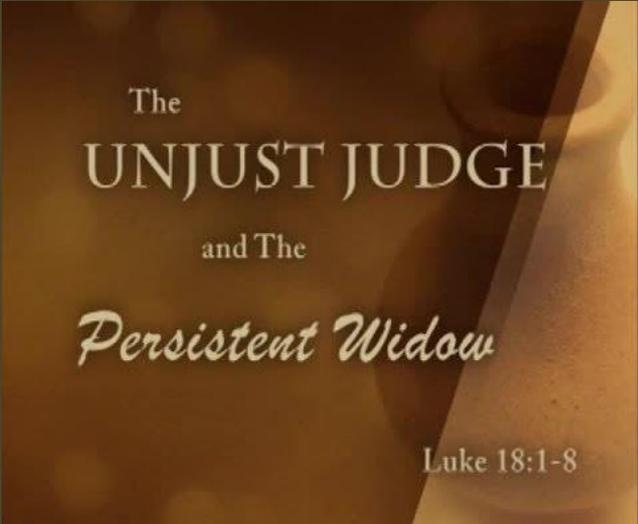


In Step
with the 
Master
Teacher



The
UNJUST JUDGE
and The
Persistent Widow

Luke 18:1-8

Luke 18:1
Purpose of the parable

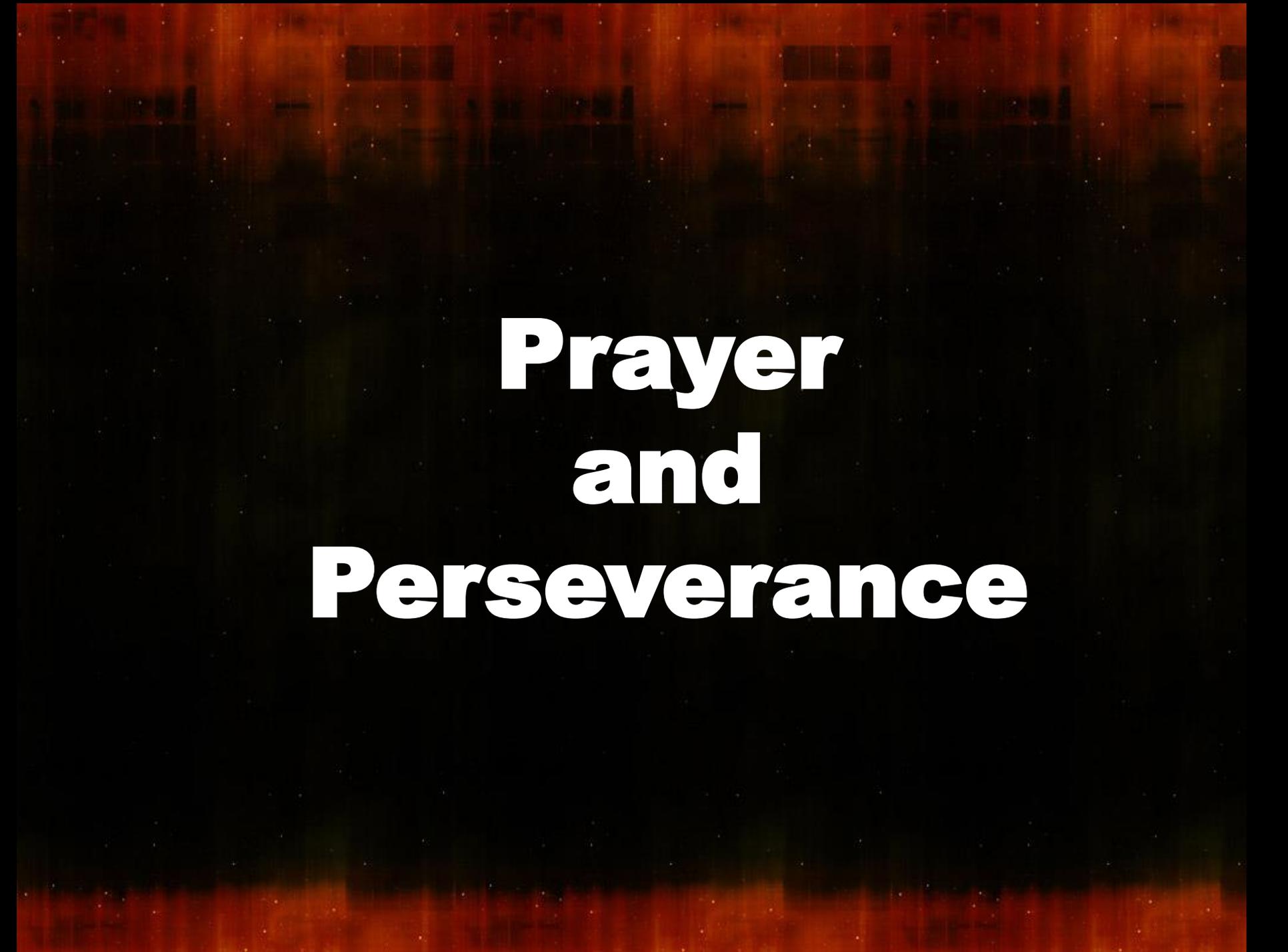
“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”

The Parable uses a contrast of two main characters from opposite ends of the continuum of power and privilege

**A corrupt Judge
and
A persistent widow**

Two kinds of people

- 1. Those who always pray**
- 2. Those who give up**



**Prayer
and
Perseverance**

To give up - to be spiritless, wearied,
exhausted

Galatians 6:9 – “Let us not become weary
in doing good, for at the proper time we
will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

(cf. II Corinthians 4:16; II Thessalonians 3:13)

James 1:3-5

Hebrews 3:12-13

Hebrews 10:35-36 - “So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.³⁶ You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.”

Hebrews 12:2-3 – “let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us...”

- **Jesus in Gethsemane and on the Cross**
- **Paul’s thorn in the flesh**

The Parable

Luke 18:2 – The character of the Judge

Luke 18:3 – The distress of the widow

Luke 18:4-5 – The determination of the widow and the decision of the Judge

Luke 18:4-5

“The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, ‘I don’t fear God or care about people, but this woman is driving me crazy. I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’” (NLT)

Lesser to Greater or How much more...

Luke 18:6-8 – “And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. 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? 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?”

“Prayer has become for me much more than a shopping list of requests to present to God. It has become a realignment of everything. I pray to restore the truth of the universe, to gain a glimpse of the world, and of me, through the eyes of God.”

“In prayer, I shift my point of view away from my own selfishness. Prayer is the act of seeing reality from God’s point of view.”
(Philip Yancey)

Questions

- Q. What kind of prayer do find in the parable?
- A. Prayer for intervention to bring about justice. A petition.

I am facing some great need and I feel that an injustice should be addressed. Like the widow, it is outside my power to do anything about it. I must appeal to one who can do what I cannot do.

- Q. What does the appeal to not give up imply about prayer?
- Q. Why does God incorporate perseverance in prayer into our lives?
- Q. Why would someone give up praying?
- A. Grow discouraged or impatient for lack of an answer.