

Rediscover Jesus, Part 66: “Don’t Despair but Persist in Prayer”

Luke 18:1-8

Ps. Eric Yee

As you wait, do not despair; but in faith, persist in prayer.

I. The parable of the unjust judge and persistent widow (vv. 1-5)

¹ And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ ⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.’”

II. Two motivations for persistent prayer (vv. 6-8a)

A. God is just and loving towards his elect (vv. 6-7a)

⁶ And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷ And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night?...”

B. God will not delay in doing right (vv. 7b-8a)

⁷ ... Will he delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily...

III. One challenging question about our faith (v. 8b)

⁸ ... Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”