

## NO NEED TO PRAY

Text: Luke 18

### INTRODUCTION

- God intends His people to live by \_\_\_\_\_ (Hab. 2:4, Rom. 1:17, Gal. 3:11, Heb. 10:38).
- \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the primary expressions of faith.
- This truth is taught in the Parable of the Unjust Judge:
  - 1. The Point of the Parable (vs. 1).**
    - Believers should live lives of prayer and should never \_\_\_\_\_ up on prayer.
  - 2. The Illustration of the Parable (vs. 2-5):**
    - The judge helped the widow not because it was right but because she was \_\_\_\_\_ and desperate.
  - 3. The Application of the Parable (vs. 6-8a):**
    - If even a wicked man can be moved to act by persistence and desperation, God is moved much more by the prayers of His people:
      - Because He is \_\_\_\_\_.
      - Because He \_\_\_\_\_ us.
      - Because His heart is \_\_\_\_\_ by our need.
    - He will answer us “speedily” (with \_\_\_\_\_).
    - “He is longsuffering or patient over them” = He tends us with care, giving us exactly what we need \_\_\_\_\_ we need it, at the proper time.
  - 4. The Moral of the Parable (vs. 8b):**
    - Christ’s prophetic prediction was that fervent, persistent prayer, as an expression of genuine faith, will largely \_\_\_\_\_ out in the days before His return.
    - In the “Last Days,” fewer and fewer professing Christians will really \_\_\_\_\_.
- Three basic Bible reasons why professing Christians today don’t pray:

### I. SOME DON’T PRAY BECAUSE THEY HAVE TOO LITTLE

- \_\_\_\_\_.
- “To \_\_\_\_\_” (vs. 1) = not to pray, not to persevere in prayer.
- Little faith will cause us to \_\_\_\_\_ praying or not to start in first place.
- If we’re going to persevere in faith and prayer, we must understand better Who God is and what He has \_\_\_\_\_ us about prayer in His Word.

### II. SOME DON’T PRAY BECAUSE THEY ARE TOO DISSIPATED OR

- \_\_\_\_\_.
- They are caught up with \_\_\_\_\_ or the cares of this life (Lk. 21:34-36).
- “Counted worthy” = not saved by works, and not a special class of Christians, but all true \_\_\_\_\_.
- Jesus said that genuine, saving faith will reveal itself in Last Days by a \_\_\_\_\_ of watching and praying always.
  - “Watching” = spiritually awake, alert, vigilant lifestyle;
  - Primary characteristic = “praying” (begging, beseeching God for help, supplicating, praying like we really need Him).
- On the other hand, Jesus mentioned another group of people who may profess faith but will be in \_\_\_\_\_ of being left behind at the Rapture to experience the worldwide judgments of the Day of the Lord.
  - “Yourselves” = not just secular unbelievers, but \_\_\_\_\_ Christians.
  - Their \_\_\_\_\_ faith will be revealed in a lifestyle of surfeiting, drunkenness, and cares of this life.
  - “Overcharged” = burdened down; they are too dissipated by fleshly, worldly living; and too distracted by worldly cares to pray.

### III. SOME DON’T PRAY BECAUSE THEY ARE TOO \_\_\_\_\_.

- They are self-\_\_\_\_\_ and self-dependent (Rev. 3:17).
- In contrast, the good example of Paul (Eph 3:14-21):
  - He \_\_\_\_\_ his knees to pray.
  - He prayed for the \_\_\_\_\_ of believers.
- Application: Needs and people we should be praying for:
  - For the \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 6:18).
  - For all \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Tim. 2:1, 3-4).
    - Specifically, for lost people to be saved.
  - For the work of world \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 9:37-38).
  - For \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Tim. 2:1-2).
  - For the Lord’s \_\_\_\_\_ (Rev. 22:20).

### CONCLUSION

- Challenge: Become a person of godly prayer.
  - Make prayer (and God) your \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Make daily, fervent, persistent prayer your individual \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Make it your point to be where God’s \_\_\_\_\_ are praying.