

The Persistence of Faith – Luke 18:1-8

I. Be Persistent in Prayer (1)

- A. This punctuates Jesus' teaching about His coming
 - Injustice will abound in world / our lives
 - All will be made right
 - faith prays for justice
 - True faith doesn't lose heart

II. The Parable of the Persistent Widow (2-5)

A. The People of the Parable (2-3)

1. An Unrighteous Judge (2)

- a. He did not fear God
- b. He did not respect man
 - Summary of OT law
 - 2 Chr 19:6-7 – Judges duty

2. A Persistent Widow (3)

- a. "kept coming" – iterative imperfect
- b. Desired Justice against adversary
 - Court system ruled by men
 - Widow has no kinsman to bring case
 - her continuous pleas suggest lack of resources to bribe
 - she was without means, without hope

B. The Power of Persistence (4-5)

1. The Unrighteous Judge Refused the Widow (4)

- a. Justice did not come for a time
 - So it is with believers
 - So it is with the World

2. The Unrighteous Judge finally gives justice (5)

- a. Her persistence bothered him
- b. He gave in to get rid of her

III. The Purpose of the Parable (6-8)

A. The Patience of God's Promise (6-7)

1. The Righteous God will Hear His Children

- a. God contrasted with the unjust judge
 - prayer doesn't "bother" God
 - Point: How much more will righteous God hear?
 - His "elect" chosen – He loves them
- b. God Will Be Patient With Them

2. The Righteous God will Bring Justice (8a)

B. The Principle of the Parable (8b)

1. Will THE faith be in Man?

- a. THE faith – points back to the woman, her kind of faith
- b. Jesus points back to his teaching about the COMING (17:20-

37)

- He is definitely coming – all will be made right
- The question is, what will he find?

- will there be faith on the earth?

- we know there will – the church won't be defeated

The question is will you be in it.