Luke 18:1-8

1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; 2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: 3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. 4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; 5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. 6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. 7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? 8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

I. The Purpose (vs. 1) "...men ought to pray, and not to faint"

A. Men ought to pray... Provision, Privilege, and Promise of Prayer!

Heb 4:15-16 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

~ The Necessity of Prayer

B. ...and not to faint The alternative to prayer is fainting!!

~The Safeguard of Prayer

Ga 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

II. The Parable (vs. 2-5)

A. The Widow's Grief

1. In light of her Adversity

This widow had a REAL issue

This widow gives a REAL and true representation of the "elect"!

2. In light of her Adversary

a.) Attacked in her Loss (weakness)

1Pe 5:8 ¶ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking
whom he may devour:

b.) **Attacked through the Law**

*The old serpent knows the Scriptures and perverts them for his own purposes*

~As he did with Eve:

Ge 3:1 ¶ Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, *Yea, hath God said*, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

~As he did with Christ:

Lu 4:9-10 And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, *If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence*: 10 *For it is written*, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee:

~So he Does with US!!!!

It was not beneath Satan to use the Word of God (twisted) to tempt Eve, He was BRASH and BOLD enough to dare use it to tempt the Lord Himself, He without a doubt will use it against us!

### B. The Widow's Grievance

1. **Propriety**: took her grievance to the ORDAINED place, the ONLY place!

2. **Perversity**:

   The unjust judge was perverse because of his CHARACTER "unjust"

   The unjust judge was perverse because of his CALLOUSNESS "regard not man"

   The unjust judge was perverse because of his CORRUPTION "feared not God"

3. **Yet she Persevered!**

   "... he would not for a while..."

   "...by her continual coming..."

### III. The Point (vs. 6-8)

A. **Established by Comparison is the Faithfulness of God**

~Compare the Character: The "unjust judge" vs the Judge of all the Earth!

**Genesis 18:25** That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

~Compare the Callousness of this judge to the tender care of the Lord!

**Mark 4:38-39** And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? 39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.
John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

~Compare the corruption of this judge to the holy and righteous of GOD!

Romans 8:31-32 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

The unjust judge proves to be a ridiculous example to show "...and shall not God...

1. Faithfulness in His Coming "...when the Son of man Cometh..."

2Pe 3:3-4 ¶ Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

2. Faithfulness in His Care

a.) He is Longsuffering

2Pe 3:9 ¶ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

b.) He is Faithful to Avenge!

B. Called into Question is the Faith of Men "...shall he find faith on the earth?"

This Parable is about faith, faith that is expressed through PRAYER

1. The Endangered Species are those that seek Instruction *Luke 11:1

Lu 11:1 ¶ And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

2. The Endangered are those that will solicit at MIDNIGHT! *Luke 11:5-13

Lu 11:8-9 I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

3. The Endangered are the persistent and instant in Prayer *Luke 18:1-8

In our text this afternoon, this dear widow was instant, she was persistent!

4. The Endangered are those that will live pure Lives before Him *Psalm 66:18

Ps 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: