

**Series: MOVED – God Is Moved By Prayer Sermon: Prayer That Moves God Never Quits
Pastor John Carmichael**

[Luk 18:1-8 NASB] 1 Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart, 2 saying, "In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man. 3 "There was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me legal protection from my opponent.' 4 "For a while he was unwilling; but afterward he said to himself, 'Even though I do not fear God nor respect man, 5 yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out.'" 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge said; 7 now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? 8 "I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?"

- We live in a time where this world is adversarial to the righteous. Powerful people use their power for themselves and over others very much like we see in Luke 18.
- LITS Commentary: Jesus, of course, is not teaching that God is like an unjust judge. The parable is cast in a “how much more” style. If a wicked man finally responds to the cries of a widow, how much more will a righteous God hear the prayers of his children.
- What is being taught is that the situations around us are not going to advantageous to us and that we our only hope of making it by crying out to God! He will come “quickly”!
- Jesus taught this parable to so we will always pray and not to lose heart.

What does prayer that never quits looks like?

God is moved by prayer that never quits these four things.

I. Four things that characterizes prayer that never quits.

a. God moves by prayer when we never quit countering the adversary.

- i. V. 3 - "There was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me legal protection from my opponent.'
- ii. V. 7 & 8 - now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? "I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly.
- iii. [Jas 5:13 NASB] 13 Is anyone among you suffering? [Then] he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises.
- iv. Cry out against everything that is happening is not the Will of God.

b. God moves by prayer when we never quit the quantity and quality of prayer.

- i. V. 5 & 7 - yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out." ... now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?
- ii. [Col 4:12 NASB] 12 Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bonds slave of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.
- iii. “Wear me out” = GR. Beat black and blue
- iv. Quick, little prayers isn’t praying just playing.

c. God moves by prayer when we never quit until things happen.

- i. V. 5 & 8 - yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out . . . I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly.

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- ii. LITS Commentary: We must not think that we have to wear God down with persistent prayer before he will pay attention to us. God is the righteous Judge, a champion of the needy and the weak.
- iii. The point of this parable is found in v1: "not to lose heart".
- iv. [1Ki 18:41-46 NASB95] 41 Now Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of the roar of a [heavy] shower." 42 So Ahab went up to eat and drink. But Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he crouched down on the earth and put his face between his knees. 43 He said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." So he went up and looked and said, "There is nothing." And he said, "Go back" seven times. 44 It came about at the seventh [time,] that he said, "Behold, a cloud as small as a man's hand is coming up from the sea." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare [your chariot] and go down, so that the [heavy] shower does not stop you.'" 45 In a little while the sky grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy shower. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. 46 Then the hand of the LORD was on Elijah, and he girded up his loins and outran Ahab to Jezreel.

d. God is moved by prayer when we never quit being people of faith.

- i. V. 8 - "I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?"
- ii. [Jas 5:16-18 NASB] 16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. 17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. 18 Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.
- iii. [Mar 11:23-24 NASB] 23 "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be [granted] him. 24 "Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be [granted] you.
- iv. FB Notes: He (Jesus) links faith directly with continued, pursuing prayer. Continuing to bring a need to God does not show a lack of faith, but just the opposite.
- v. Jesus is coming for some people of faith who are continually praying in faith.

II. Four applications of prayer that never quits.

- a. Never quit countering your enemy in prayer.
 - b. Never quit praying often, long, and nonstop.
 - c. Never quit praying until things are shifting.
 - d. Never quit praying in faith.
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- God is moved by prayer when we never quit praying against our enemy with quantity and quality of prayer until things happen because we are people of faith in Him.
 - God is ready to move when you pray.
 - **Set a time/rhythm.**
 - **Show up.**